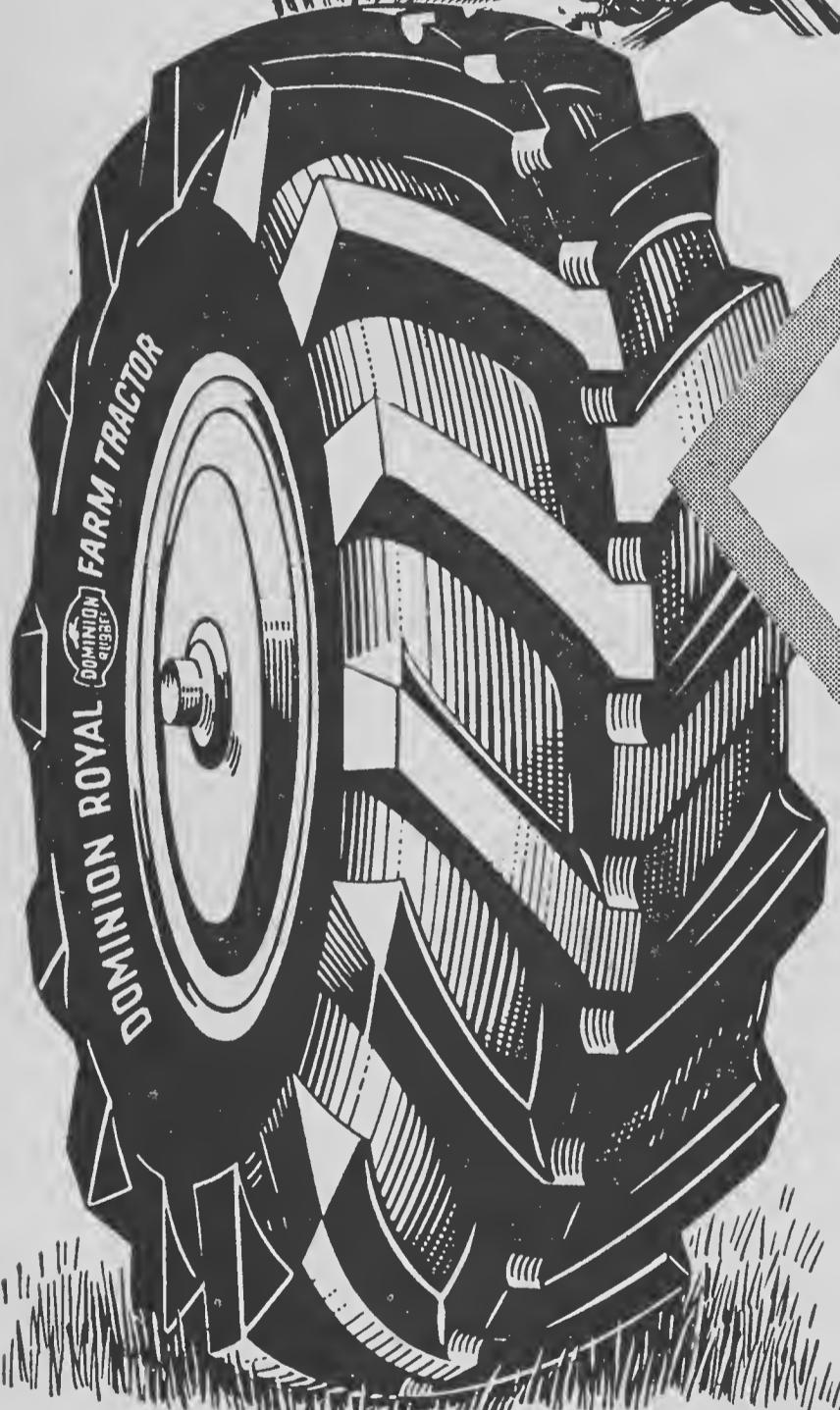


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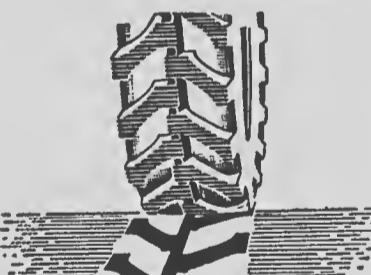
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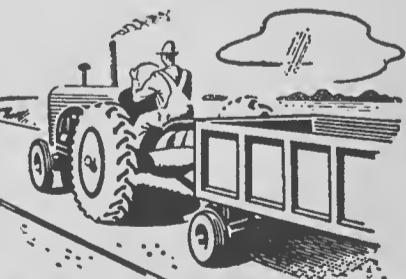


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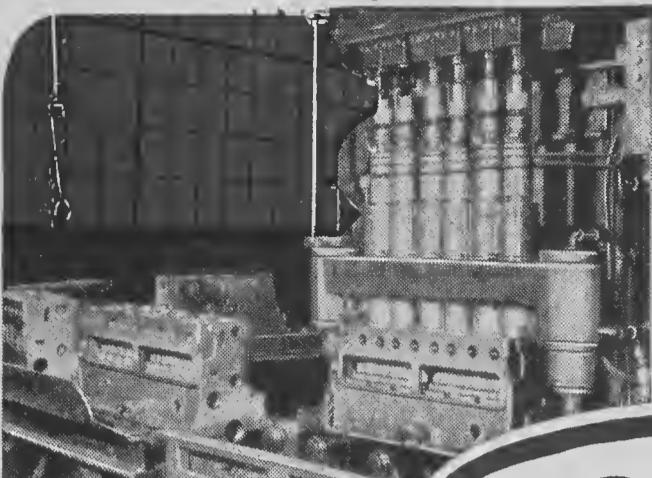
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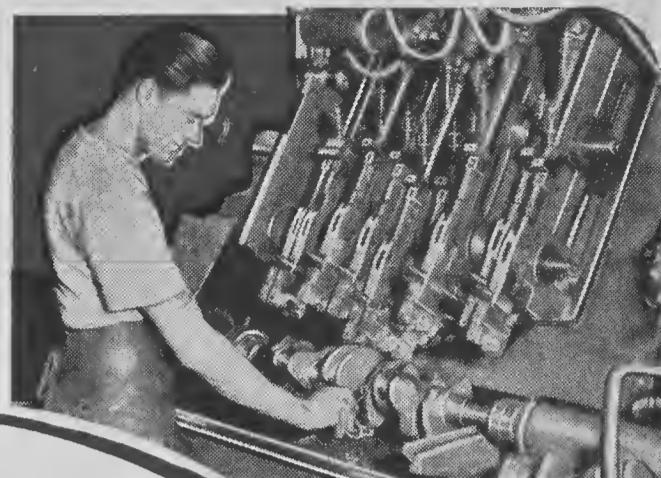
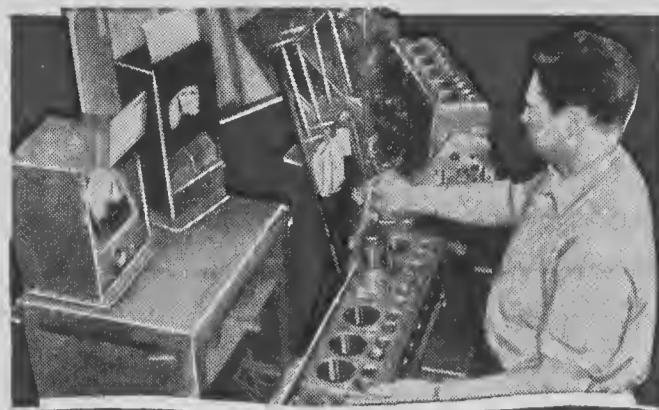
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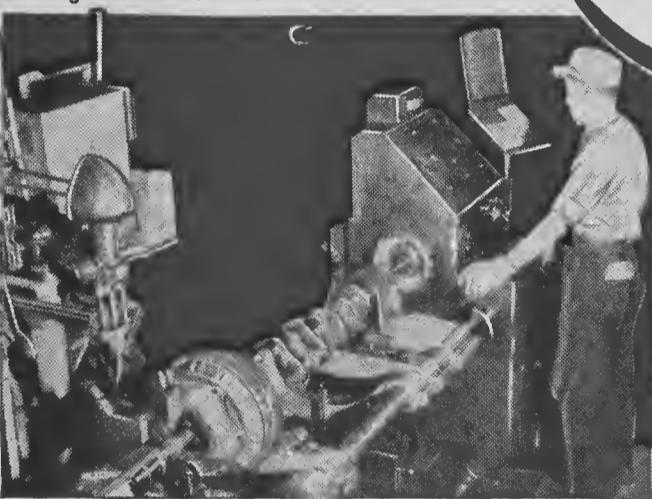
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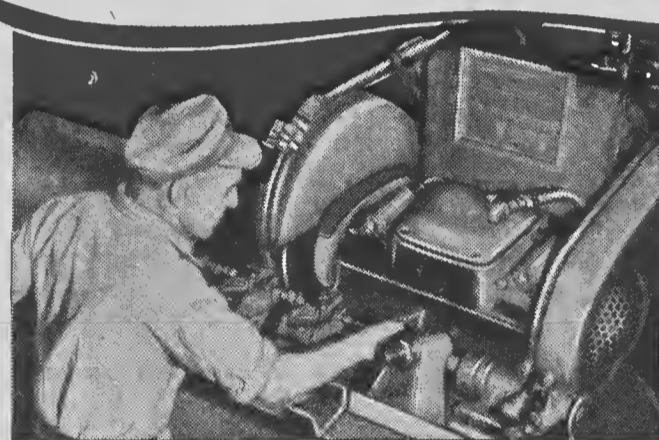


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THE *Country*
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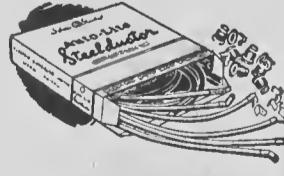
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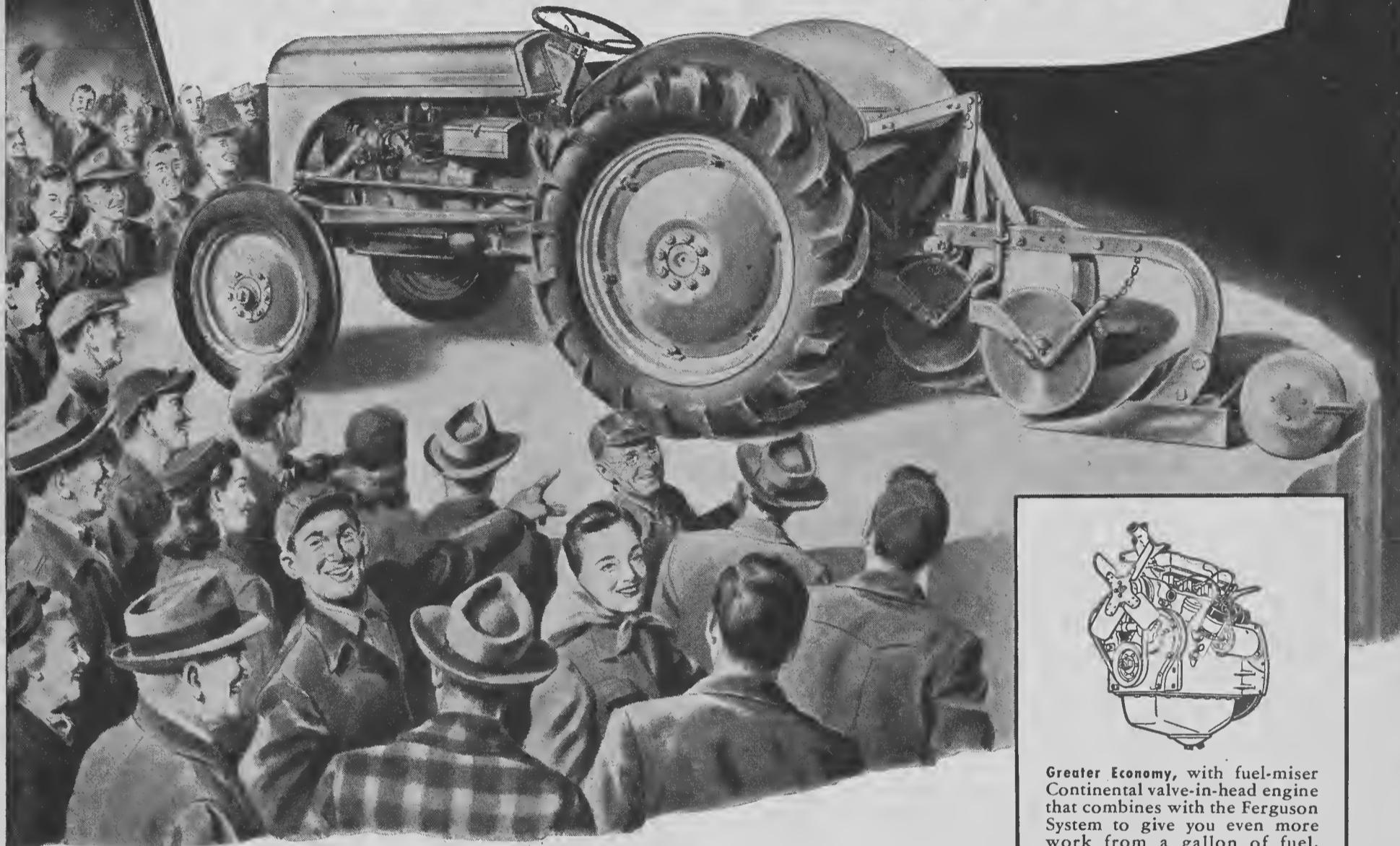
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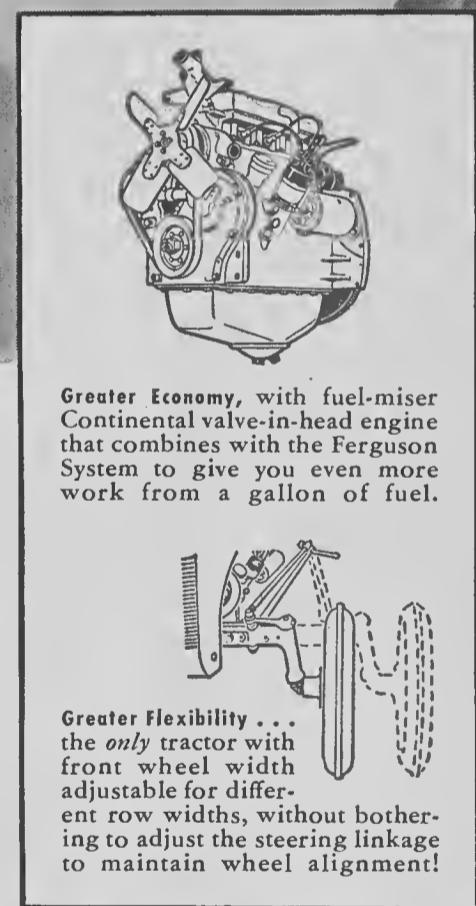
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Each dot represents 1,000,000 bushels of wheat produced in the world in each year during the 1935-39 period.

WHEAT—KEY TO FARM CONTROLS

AS the result of six years of war, and in spite of a lapse of nearly three years since the war ended, food is still scarce throughout the world and high in price. The people of all the more advanced countries, at least, are more food conscious than before the war and realize now the effect of restricted markets on their health and well-being. Farmers, for their part, feel that when other people are hungry, there should be a market for all they can produce; and they are prosecuting with more vigor than ever their search for stability of prices.

Indeed, fear of another depression coming in the midst of troubled world conditions has led many otherwise thoughtful farm folk to accept, without much questioning, makeshift farm marketing arrangements, which involve unheard-of government interference with prices and with a factor still to be treated with some respect, the law of supply and demand.

Under the circumstances it is inevitable, perhaps, that governments should step into business. During wartime it was essential that the people of the nation work together as a team, and that nations themselves should work together. For this purpose, controls of all sorts were necessary. In Canada our system of controls worked at least as well as those of any other country. Limited amounts of goods were fairly well distributed, nobody went hungry, and the cost-of-living was kept down. When the war ended, however, there was a great clamor for the removal of controls. Manufacturers wanted to make and sell those goods which would be most profitable. Labor wanted shorter hours and more money. Farmers wanted the removal of subsidies, which they never had liked, and instead, they wanted prices which would bear a fair relation to their rising costs of production.

IN the United States, our nearest neighbor and our best customer, prices were controlled later and decontrolled earlier, than in Canada. The cost of living there rose rapidly. Prices shot sky-high. Markets for Canadian

Herein is described the pathway to the Wheat Agreement ---Key to the control of farm income in Canada

farm products looked attractive, but Canadian farmers were denied access to them because of embargoes and the fact that most of our surplus food products were committed to Britain by government-made food contracts.

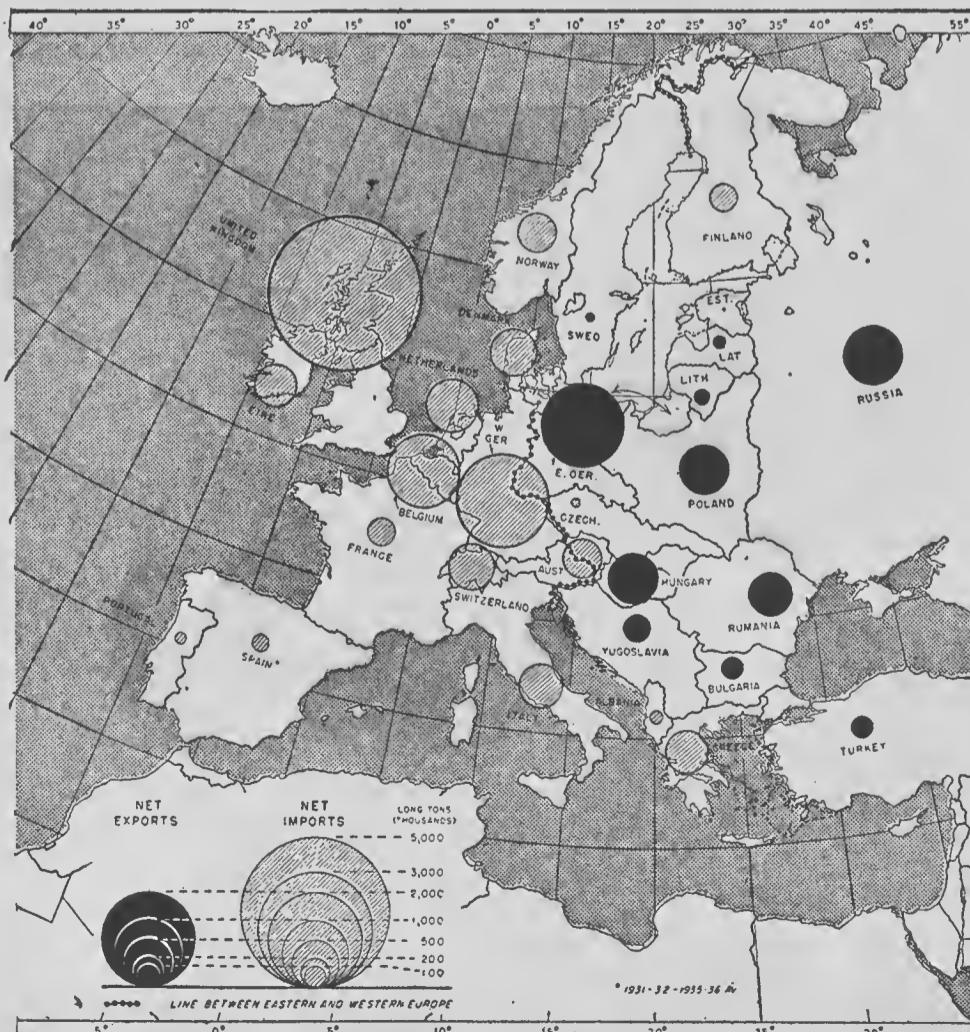
Other governments were also in the food business, those of Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, Russia, Britain and even the United States, which went

into the market and bought huge quantities of foodstuffs for relief purposes. In fact, governments have become a dominant factor in world trade today in a way that has never been true before in the history of the modern world. That much of this was proper, and inevitable under the circumstances, does not alter the rather disturbing fact that it is true.

BRITAIN is the world's biggest customer for foodstuffs. She will never be able to produce enough food to satisfy the needs of her people—though by 1952 or later she hopes to produce 75 per cent of her requirements. During the war she was forced to rigid rationing and control, and even her farmers were compelled to produce what they were told to produce, or get off the land. To fairly distribute limited quantities of food during the war years, she was forced to create the Ministry of Food, by which the government bought great quantities of foodstuffs from other countries.

Today, Britain is rationed even more rigidly than during the war years, and the present British government has deemed it necessary to continue and insist on bulk purchases of food from other countries. If the biggest customer of any business insists on certain quantity orders and certain methods of doing business, he is almost certain to get them if they are at all practicable. Similarly, the biggest purchaser of foodstuffs in the world has been able to bring the governments of several other countries into the business of selling food. When governments make deals between themselves, it generally happens that some section or sections of the population suffer, and are helpless under it. They do not have the privilege of making their own mistakes and paying for them. The government makes the deal, and the injured parties pay, notwithstanding that the entire country may be the gainer.

SOMETHING of this is true with regard to contracts which the Canadian government has made for the sale of Canadian farm products. Canada is one of the important surplus-producing countries of the world, the reason being that we have about seven acres of land per person in Canada, as compared with around two acres per person the world over. We have very large quantities of surplus wheat to sell each year, and lesser quantities of such products as eggs, cheese, apples, wheat, pork, lamb, coarse grains, and



Wheat surplus and wheat deficient areas in Europe. Note that all the wheat deficient areas are on the western side of the Iron Curtain.

(Turn to page 48)

IT was very good reasoning that the lady had applied to that question, but Frosty only laughed his red laughter. He looked at the beauty of his mate and remembered her speed of foot and all the cleverness that she had showed along the trail, and he felt a great happiness because he knew that he was going to have a proper audience to appreciate his efforts.

The scent of poison and the sight of what it could accomplish had made her almost sick with fear, but she followed Frosty slowly across the fields, and then he showed her some good hunting.

The wind came always in puffs, slowly and gently, the very best sort of a wind for the carrying of scents of every kind, and, getting to the right quarter of the compass, Frosty worked up that wind to the edge of a big field where a great mound of something living slept upon the ground.

Since the wires of that fence were strung closely together and wickedly barbed, he leaped lightly and trotted on.

Over his shoulder he saw her slenderer body follow, arching against the stars, and he was immensely pleased to see this blind faith in her. But he paused to give her caution.

"This is a trick," said Frosty, "which I have learned. But it has cost a good many other wolves their lives. It is all a matter of foot and eye and tooth and quick thinking. I have seen three wolves gored to death in this game—yes, and each time they were hunting in packs. Perhaps they were a little too hungry to have clear wits. Sit down and watch me work. That is a bull yonder, and a bull fights to the last gasp. One thing is to make the kill swiftly, because a bull roars as he fights. And then men come on horses!"

"Ugh!" shuddered his mate. "The wind changes, and I smell dogs and the scent of many men."

"There are always dogs about this place," said Frosty carelessly. "The trouble with dogs is that when they can run fast enough to catch you, they have no jaw muscles for biting. And when they are big enough to take a grip, they are too clumsy to put a tooth on a wolf that has his wits about him. Besides, the fools are easily made to change their minds."

HE thought, as he said that, of the two great dogs of the trapper that had not been made to change their minds till they were dead. And back in his mind there was the memory of a certain great mastiff that, in the midst of a mob scene, had once managed to lay its deadly grip on Frosty. The pain of the wound ached right up into the back of his mind as he recalled it.

His mate obediently sat down. He could see the

Silvertip's Chase

Only a man like Silver could appreciate a wolf like Frosty.
When they meet, anything could happen---

By MAX BRAND

SERIAL—PART III

stars in her bright eyes, and it made him laugh to observe her fear. However, she said nothing. Only the fur of her mane lifted as she saw him actually turn toward that monstrous antagonist.

HE went up softly toward that mountain of dangerous flesh. There had been a night when he had slit the throat of a sleeping steer just as it tossed up its head. Perhaps he would have equal luck on this occasion and make the battle end in blessed silence. However, he was not surprised when the big brute lurched suddenly from the ground, rear end first, and swung to face him. For a range bull is only a shade less wary than any meat eater, and fully as savage.

This was the hardy veteran of a score of battles with his kind, a true champion of the range. He got the wind of Frosty, came to his feet like a wild cat, and charged without even waiting to bellow.

He missed Frosty.

The she-wolf did not rise from her haunches. She remained in the near distance, lolling her tongue, apparently indifferent. In reality, she was taking stock of her mate's talent as a provider. She saw Frosty avoid that thrusting of sharp horns, swing to the side, and sway back again to get behind the monster.

But the bull was wary, and spun about in time.

He put down his head and pawed the earth, preparing to bellow. Frosty made a bluff of charging straight at the head and lowered horns. It was a very good bluff. It looked to the watcher as though her mate were hurling himself right on those terrible, curved spear points. The bull took three little running steps to meet the shock—and Frosty floated away to the side, slid like a ghost under the belly of the bull, and danced away on the farther side.

The bull whirled again. Muttering thunder was

forming in his throat. The she-wolf heard it, and she smelled fresh blood—beef blood. She could even hear it trickling to the ground, splashing in a pool. Frosty had used his teeth in that last maneuver.

He was ready to use them again. He went in at that huge bull like a snipe flying against the wind. The bull backed, checked, charged furiously. In the dullness of the starlight high overhead, the she-wolf saw the clots of turf flying. The ground trembled with the beating of hoofs.

The horns missed Frosty by a margin so slight that the bull paused to hook two or three times at the spot in the air where the grey wolf had seemed to be. Then he jerked up his head with an almost human groan of pain, for Frosty, twisting about to the rear, had chopped right through the great tendon over the hock as cleanly as a butcher could have done with a sharp cleaver.

The bull started to spin, but it was hard to maneuver rapidly on only one rear leg, and the she-wolf heard the dull, chopping sound as the great fangs of Frosty struck through the tendon of the other leg.

The bull dropped to his hind quarters, still formidable, for with the sway of his monstrous horns he could guard his flanks; in the meantime, out of his throat rolled a thundering call of rage, and appeal, and helplessness.

Frosty sat down five yards away, as though he enjoyed that music, but in the middle of the lowing he flashed off his feet and dipped right in under the stretched-out throat of the bull. He cut that throat wide open across the tender narrows just beneath the jaws. The bull, trying to bellow again, only belched forth a stream of blood.

Frosty went back and stood beside his mate, panting.

The bull, slumping suddenly forward, struck the earth in a loose, dead bulk. Now he was still, and the banquet table was spread!

The she-wolf delayed only to see her mate put tooth to the hide. Then she was instantly at work.

FROSTY was hungry; he was very hungry. It was a long time since he had had a chance to enjoy the sort of diet that he relished most, but all of his hunger and all this delicious smell of fresh blood could not hide in his mind the knowledge that he was dining on the very verge of destruction.

Now and again he would lift his great, wise young head and survey the country around him, and the obscure lines where the starlit sky met the thicker night of the earth. It took eyes and some knowing to observe the movement of forms at a distance against



Jim Silver lay on the edge of a bluff with a field glass pressed to his eyes.

such a background. But, when danger threatened a moment later, it took nothing but ears and nose to understand.

It was the scent of man and dogs in the distance, and the sound of a man calling, and the answering high *yip-yipping* of the dogs.

INSIDE

the house of Truman they had been talking

late, smoking, telling old tales of hunting, listening to Thurston's description of some of the great runs the pack had made; and then, out of the distance, they heard the booming, thundering call of the bull.

Truman got out of his chair at once, crossed the room, and opened a window wide. He leaned into the night and listened. The bellowing of the bull was cut off short. In the middle of the great, angry lament the thunder ended.

Truman turned back to the others.

"There's something wrong," he said. "That's a mighty expensive bull I've got out yonder, and I don't like the way he cut off that bellow, as though somebody had just laid a whip on him!"

Christian said: "Maybe it's Frosty come down to

dine."

Truman shook his head. "It won't be Frosty," he said. "Frosty wouldn't waste as much effort as that killing old beef when there's so much young stuff scattered around the place. He'd rather have veal than beef. I know his tastes."

He leaned out through the window again, shaking his head, very worried.

Thurston stood up and said:

"I'll take a walk with a few of my dogs and see what I can turn up."

"No good doing that," answered Truman. "No good trying to run that devil of a wolf in the dark of the moon, and he very well knows it."

Thurston turned and smiled. It was not a real smile, but merely a baring of the teeth.

"You're rather proud of what your Blue Waters wolf can do, Truman," he said, "but I'll tell you this: My pack will find in the dark and it will run in the dark, and it will kill in the dark, too. If friend Frosty is anywhere around, he's a dead wolf before morning."

With that Joe Thurston walked out of the house and got his selection from the dogs. He simply took a pair of pointers so perfectly trained that they would obey gestures as far as the wave of the hand could be seen. Whistles could give them further orders.

Barry Christian walked out with Thurston and the dogs into the field, and saw, almost at once, the outline of the bulk of the bull, prostrate. Asleep, perhaps, as Barry Christian thought. But then the dogs, scouting close to the bull, failed to rouse it to its feet, which was strange, and a moment later the pointers were kiting across the field and giving trouble.

"Wolves, by thunder!" shouted Thurston.

His whistle shrilled into the night to call back the pointers before they ran themselves into hopeless trouble.

"Come back to the house!" he shouted to Christian. "We'll saddle up and hit the trail."

Christian had lighted a match close to the bull. He saw the terribly torn throat; he saw a big patch of blood, and in the softness of the ground that was outlined, the huge print of a wolf's foot, a print so big that it started his heart racing.

"Thurston!" he cried. "We've got on his trail at last. It's Frosty, or his twin!"

WHEN

Frosty heard the outbreak of the dogs and the voice of the man, he had to snap his big teeth close to the head of his mate before she would leave off her greedy feeding and lift her red, dripping muzzle.

She was reluctant. He urged her with the powerful thrust of his shoulder, and at last she slunk away, regretfully, slackening her pace every now and then. He studied her with a critical eye. She had eaten like fire. Already she was loggy with food. She ran with her head down, and her tail down, also. She kept coughing, and she stumbled over small obstacles.

Behind them the noise of the dogs and the man ceased. Then it came once more, and a pair of dogs rushed straight at Frosty through the starlight. He turned back to get ready for them.

No matter how unfit she might be for battle, she fell in behind him and faced to guard his back. But the two big dogs that came glimmering out of the starlight veered off to this side and that. They retreated to a little distance and sat down and howled.

Both Frosty and his mate charged the pair. The pointers turned and fled faster than the wolves could follow. For a timber wolf is not very fleet of foot. He is made for endurance and the shock of hard fighting, not for flight, like the fox or the coyote. Only in the rough country of the uplands will a timber wolf pull away from a pack of dogs. The she-wolf managed to slash the hip of one of the dogs; that was all.

Then she turned with Frosty and started to race off

at full speed. He calmed her and made her come back to a dogtrot. For it was plain that she could not stand the test of a hard run at once. Frosty himself was not exactly comfortable, for there was a considerable burden of meat inside him, and yet he had eaten nothing in comparison with his companion. Her sides thrust out with her meal. Her panting was a painful thing to hear.

It was better to go on rather slowly, always in the direction of the higher foothills and the mountains beyond them.

He tossed his head, and the collar on his neck slid a little upward through his fur. Already he had some cause to be grateful for the protection it had given to him, for in the battle that won him his mate, the second big wolf had struck for the throat of Frosty, and merely snapped a fang short on the



metal that ran around his throat. For all that, it was a hateful thing, because it continually reminded him of the most dreadful moment of his life.

Still, he could not conceive what had happened after the blow that knocked him senseless. During the interval, in the darkness of his mind, the steel teeth of the trap had been removed from his hind leg and the steel bondage of the collar had been placed around his neck. The man had withdrawn and sat against a tree, bleeding. And he, Frosty, had been free to escape.

SOMETIMES he felt as though that collar were a man's claim upon him, a detached hand that had him by the throat, and by which he might be one day throttled, as he had seen a brute of a wolf trapper once throttle a litter of helpless young puppies at the mouth of a cave. Or perhaps a mysterious agency was attached to the steel and would one day draw him back to mysterious man.

They got out of the low, rolling ground and climbed to the top of the first steep rise, where the she-wolf flung herself down on the ground suddenly. She was sick, and she could hardly travel further.

Frosty looked down at her heaving sides. Then he

Illustrated by
CLARENCE TILLENIUS



Behind them, in the valley, they heard the cry of the dog-pack.

scanned the dark shadow of the lower ground beneath him. It might be, in fact, that no more danger was coming toward them, though in that case it was very strange that the two dogs, alone, dared to remain so close. Here they were again, glimmering shapes in the starlight, and pausing at a little distance, they sat down to howl at the enemy. The lips of Frosty twitched as he considered the keen edge of his teeth and the softness of their throat, but he was not a witless one to try to catch four faster feet than his own.

Then out of the distance he heard a deadly chorus. There were more voices like those of the pointers. He could hear the keen yelping of the greyhounds, thin and far away, and above all, the harsh cries of dogs whose voices were exactly like those of the ugly pair of monsters that had fallen upon him when he was in the trap.

There were more than a score of throats giving music to that chorus. The heart of Frosty suddenly grew small in him. He stood over his mate.

She rose with a lurch so slow and so heavily that the heart of Frosty failed in him again. Certainly she was hard spent, and yet the worst of the run might remain all ahead of them. In this condition he dared not lead her at a rapid pace. He could merely pick rough going, always, so that their trail would furnish as much difficulty as possible to the dogs in the distance.

But what great difference did the trailing make when the two pointers, always near by, guided their companions out of the night with their outcry?

Moreover, the grey of the morning began now, streaking around the rim of the horizon and making the mountains stand up black and huge against the eastern sky.



BREAKFAST IN-A-HURRY

Farmers are interested in the growing use of cold breakfast cereals both as consumers and as suppliers of the raw product

By PETER MACDONALD

IT used to be a tradition in this part of Canada—one that goes back to the first Selkirk settlers—that the farm breakfast begins with oatmeal porridge. Some city folk who have given up their old conception of a hayseed still believe, though, that porridge starts the farmer's day 365 times a year. It's just not true.

I got an eye opener on a visit to a big tractor outfit last summer where 40 men were working in shifts around the clock. They lived in cabooses and ate out of a cook car. There was the widest possible choice of breakfast foods, and yet I noticed that only one out of three ate cooked cereals. The Country Guide sent out 5,000 questionnaires in 1947 to unearth further information on this subject. One-third of the letters went to residents of small country towns, the balance to farmers. The replies disclosed that 93 per cent of village and farm dwellers used one or more kinds of cold breakfast cereal, the farm families showing a trifle higher percentage.

If these observations require confirmation, here it is from the man who has probably sold more of this type of food than anyone else in Canada. "In recent years," he says, "farm consumption of cold breakfast foods has increased at a faster rate than city sales, always remembering that it started from a lower base."

BUT the farm dweller has an interest beyond that of a consumer. He provides the raw material out of which these foods are made, and he is interested in them as a market for his produce.

Take the case of wheat. It appears on breakfast tables in many forms, the best known of which are puffed, shredded and flaked. What does it mean to the wheat farmer?

The ideal wheat for the breakfast food manufacturer is soft, white winter wheat. Western hard wheats are too brittle. When puffed the kernels tend to break up in handling. No customer wants a nicely labelled package full of dust. Red wheats owe their color to a substance called "carotin." It darkens whatever breakfast food made from it. Only white wheats work up into products with the bright color which customers favor. More important still, carotin has a distinctive odor. It does not affect the flour miller because the carotin goes into the by-products. But the manufacturer of breakfast foods has to put the whole of the wheat into his specialty and there is no escaping the mildly disagreeable carotin odor.

At one time Ontario was producing 50 million bushels of wheat a year and breakfast food manufacturers felt no concern about future supplies. But in the space between the two wars the 50 million shrank to a normal of 20 million. Ontario's wheat fields are principally in the southwest part of the province. Other more pro-

fitable crops have invaded the territory—tobacco, corn, sugar beets, and soybeans. As only the best of the winter wheat crop can be used for making breakfast food, the manufacturers have been hard put to it to obtain their requirements.

A recent development, the high price of feed grains, has accentuated the trouble. Ontario home-grown wheat has been going into poultry and stock feed, for it is cheaper pound for pound than western coarse grains. In some cases breakfast food makers have bought western hard red wheat and traded it to Ontario farmers for the white winter wheat that would otherwise have gone into the pig trough, giving the farmer a handsome premium for his winter wheat.

IN times when the shoe pinched worst, breakfast food companies have tried a wide variety of substitutes to eke out their supply of winter wheat. They have used American wheat, much higher in price, from the Pacific northwest. They have used Alberta red winter wheat. Strangely enough, they have used with some success the lighter colored Durums which Manitoba usually sells to macaroni millers only.

The latest development is an experiment in growing white winter wheat in western Canada. One breakfast food company distributed selected seed in 1947 to recommended growers at widely scattered points, among which I might name Beausejour and Carman in Manitoba; Cayley and Red Deer in Alberta; and in Saskatchewan's Swan River valley. It is too early to say what the results will be. It is believed that the Ontario sorts will survive the low western winter temperatures. The crucial test will be its resistance to heaving after the commencement of the late winter thaw.

Sure enough the Ontario wheat grown in its new environment will lose its valuable characters after a few generations, but this can be overcome by renewing the seed from the original source. There will be plenty of opposition to the introduction of white varieties into the western trade, but the hope of the promoters is that the premiums which they will be able to pay will assure farmer support for their plan. There is an annual market for 50 million bushels of the stuff in Canada for baking and manufacturing, so the food processors say.

THE technique of manufacturing wheat into breakfast food is a novel one for westerners to see, particularly the making of puffed wheat. The ads are literally true. It is shot from guns. After the grains have been cleaned they are put in bronze cylinders which an old soldier would promptly designate six-inch mortars because of their build and their angle of elevation. The cylinder is filled two-thirds full of wheat and then sealed. The cylinders are then revolved for 10 to 15 minutes in ovens at a temperature of 800 degrees. This high temperature cooks the grain and turns its natural moisture to steam. When the grain has reached the required temperature, which is shown by pressure in the cylinders, super-heated steam at a pressure of 275 pounds is injected into the cylinder.

Housewives familiar with the operation of a pressure cooker operating for a few minutes at 15 pounds pressure can imagine the result. The grain is instantly heated to a further intensity without driving out its moisture, which safeguards the grain from burning. Then comes the explosion. A battery of them makes a racket like a first class barrage. Out of the mortar mouths comes a spurt of wheat kernels which explode internally as soon as the pressure is removed. The discharge is caught in a cage, cooled and packaged.

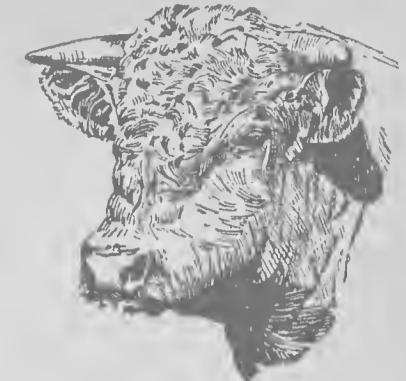
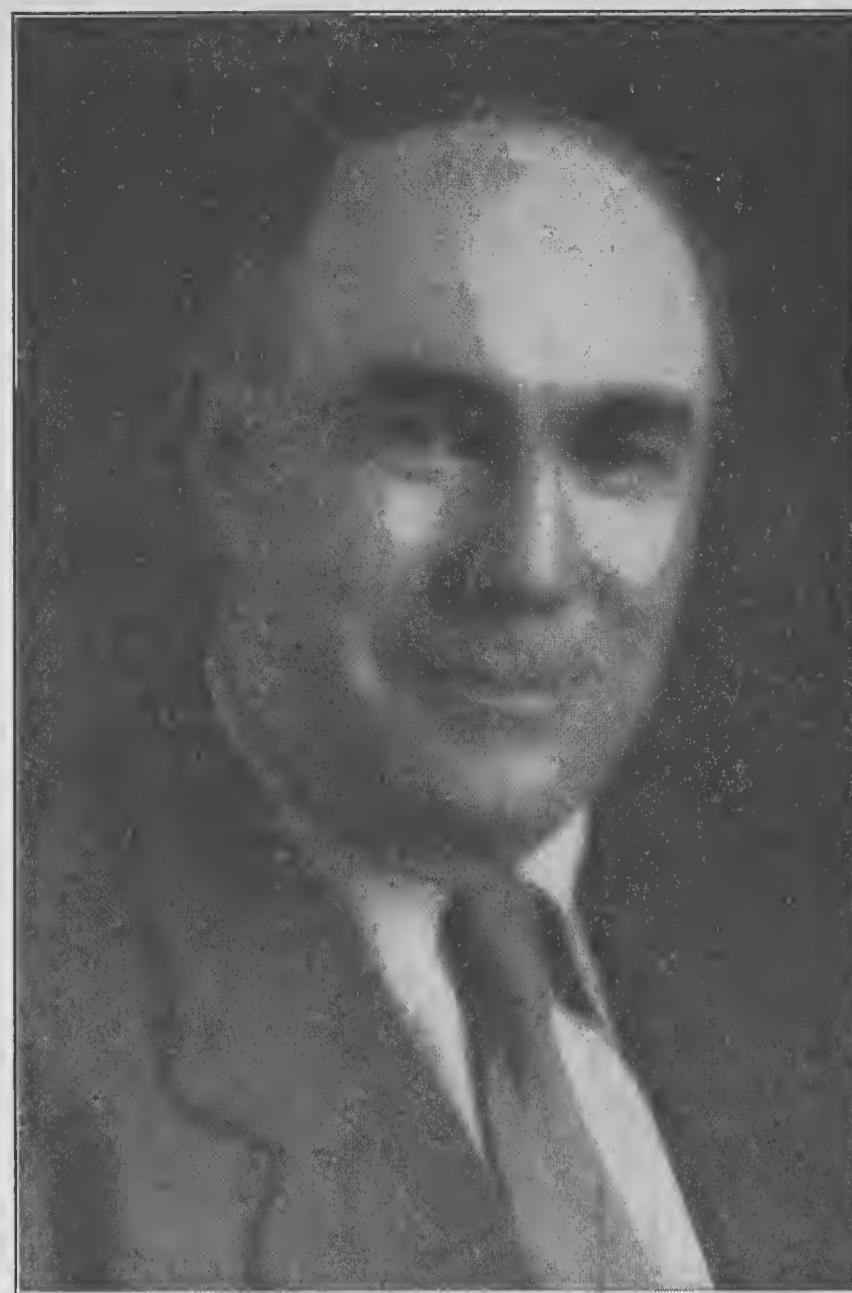
Shredded wheat is the product of a less dramatic technique. The grain is first cleaned and cooked and then cooled. The swollen grain is then passed through grooved steel rollers under 1,700 pounds pressure from which it emerges in continuous strands on a moving belt below. Layer on

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Soft, white winter wheats get the preference from manufacturers of cold breakfast cereals.

[Photo—Press Association Inc.]



NAPOLEON declared that every soldier carries a baton in his knapsack. J. Chas. Yule of Calgary has demonstrated that it is as true of an agricultural career as it was among the reckless guardsmen who starved and triumphed with the Little Corporal. For the little boy who 50 years ago kept watch beside his placid charges in the show barns at Toronto, nodding at times as he reclined in the straw and dreamed his dreams, reached the peak of a stockman's strivings at Perth this year.

Perth is Scotland's premier bull show and sale. Here buyers from all over the world congregate to bid for the best that Scotland can produce. Perth sets the fashion in Scotch Shorthorns, along with the great Highland show. No Canadian had ever before been assigned the tremendously important task of making the Perth awards. But once the Scots had decided to invite overseas appraisals of Shorthorns, Charlie Yule was an obvious choice, as anyone familiar with his achievements in the realm of purebred livestock knows.

The late Jan Masaryk used to say that his success was due to his wise choice of parents. Charlie Yule tells you the same story. In truth, to have been born in his father's household was indeed a short-cut to success with livestock. The son says that his father was the best judge of beef cattle that he ever knew. There are still a few old Shorthorn men in Manitoba and Ontario who remember the dynamic little Aberdonian who successively founded four great Shorthorn herds and burned himself up at the early age of 52. Because of better formal education the son has gone further than his father, but he has never gone so far as to warrant the use of his first name. There was only one "Jimmy," and J. Chas. Yule can at best be only Charlie.

Yule paterfamilias migrated to Sunderland, Ontario, where Charlie was born. He promptly set himself up in the Shorthorn business, but it was not long before others perceived his skill. In 1897 Hon. Thomas Greenway, then Premier of Manitoba, founded a famous herd at Crystal City with Jimmy Yule as manager. It gave the little Scot command of resources which he would have been a long time accumulating for himself, and speeded his wide recognition as a constructive breeder. But the darkening shadow of Roblin crept over the province. Greenway's ministry was defeated. Greenway died, and the herd was dispersed.

Jimmy Yule's reputation by this time was such that he was eagerly snapped up in 1902 by Sir William Van Horne, vice-president of the C.P.R., who had established a farm on the east side of the Red River at Selkirk. There Yule built a herd which was second to none on the continent, and left it only when injury by a bull forced him for awhile into semi-retirement. After his recovery the indefatigable Jimmy founded his fourth and last herd at Oak Bluff, a few miles southwest of Winnipeg, for H. L. Emmert, a city real estate operator. This herd swept the Canadian show circuit in the years immediately before the first Great War.

IRECOUNT these enterprises of the elder Yule's because they were the early grades of Charlie's livestock schooling. John Miller, Jr., well-known Ontario Shorthorn breeder, writes this paragraph which portrays Charlie Yule in his Shorthorn kindergarten before his father moved West.

"When I first met Charlie Yule at Toronto Industrial Exhibition in 1894, he was a small boy with his father and grandfather. Their exhibits composed of an entry in each class, and two in a number. Needless to say they got the lion's share of the prizes. One cow I well remember in particular. She seemed to get Charlie's personal attention when shown by him. When she was feeding he was busy

to reminisce over old show experiences, occasionally sipping comforting draughts from a bottle. The young lads, Miller, Bill Dryden, Tom Russell, Charlie Yule, and others were allowed to sit up because their fathers regarded the conversation as the most useful education they would ever acquire. The earnestness of the debates over pedigrees impressed the lads, for they knew nothing of the strength which the disputants drew from the bottle. The talk died down only when some compassionate father picked his sleeping boy from the pile of fresh straw and tucked him beneath the blankets, usually in an empty stall.

THE successive herd headers at Crystal City and Selkirk gave Charlie a familiar knowledge of what the show circuits of that day demanded. Photos of Judge, and Caithness, and Spicy Marquis, make them look over-long and over-refined to modern eyes, but all these companions of Charlie's working hours left their stamp on the Manitoba herds of those days.

The great show bull, Gainford Marquis, which Jimmy Yule bought for the Emmert herd, marked the turn of an epoch in Canadian Shorthorndom. Father Yule confided to Charlie that new times would demand a new type of cattle. Jimmy was one of the first to see that changing city habits would create a demand for smaller roasts. The next herd header which he bought was the smaller Browndale. Yule, Sr., did not live to see the change this bull wrought on Canadian Shorthorn type, but the discerning son saw the plan unfold in the herd of James Douglas, Caledonia, Ontario, to which the bull passed.

When Manitoba opened its agricultural college in 1906, Charlie could not escape attendance, nor could he afterward escape the vigilant eye of the autocratic and

bigoted principal. Charlie claims the distinction of being the first student to have been "fired" from that institution. He is just boasting. He was not fired. He was merely denied the privilege of living in residence, probably because his clothes smelled of tobacco smoke or he was known to approve of dancing. In any case he came to share that disgrace with so many others who achieved success and respect in later life that it signifies nothing.

In his two years at M.A.C., however, Charlie Yule came under the influence of W. J. Rutherford, who then taught animal husbandry and later became dean of the new college founded at Saskatoon. After the frown descended on him at Winnipeg, Charlie found

it more congenial at the Ontario College of Agriculture at Guelph. There Rutherford's lessons were supplemented by Prof. George E. Day, dean of the Shorthorn judges in his time. Charlie does these men ample credit. They rounded out the rough edges of his early training. They made him more articulate. They provided him with reasons to support his intuitive choice of good beasts. They gave him confidence.

IDOUBT if any amount of polishing at the hands of Rutherford and Day could have made a book farmer out of Charlie Yule. In any case before his final year was over at Guelph his father's death, and his own involvement in livestock business deals, made it imperative for Charlie to quit school. As a barefoot boy, he had set himself three aims. He would some day show his own herd among the contemporary greats. He would import some high grade cattle from Scotland. He would judge at Chicago, the recognized livestock centre of the North American continent. The livestock deals into which he had drifted while still a student lay along the highway to his dreams. Academic pursuits looked like a detour.

About that time, two fine

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Charlie Yule in 1913 with Gainford Marquis.

HIGH CLIMBER in a HURRY

By CLAY PERRY

Jack Rennie was an old paratrooper and therefore no novice in tackling jobs where the odds against him were unknown

Illustration by GEORGE ALBION



THE COUNTRY GUIDE

JACK RENNIE was one hundred feet up in the air, topping a big Douglas fir, making a lobstick out of it, the head spar for a high lead into the Camp Nine cut. It was too steep up the side of Mt. Siskiyou for cat tractors to operate. The timber had to be snaked down by means of a steel sky-line and chokers and a donkey engine, and this head spar had to be unusually high to rig to another up the grade, on the same level as its top.

Jack didn't mind being up in the air, clinging to a tree trunk by his spurs and pass line. It was his job. He was a high climber by profession and in the Douglas fir country they come high, up to two hundred feet, the trees. But Jack smelled smoke and didn't like it. It wasn't camp smoke. It was resinous and the woods were as dry as two months' drought could make them. He couldn't see the smoke for he was on an airy island amid a sea of green fir branches, trimming the tall tree with his double-bitted axe up to the place where he would begin sawing off, fifty feet or more from the top.

It was mid-morning, beginning to be hot. Jack had worked through the hoot-owl shift, starting at 3:30 a.m., when the humidity is greatest from fog, mist and dew. Around this tree a clearing had been made but the branches of the grenadier-like firs thrust out to within ten feet of Jack and he could just about see the ground at the butt of his tree.

Jack had sent his ground man down the skid road to town to have an ulcerated tooth yanked and he was alone, between Camp Three, two miles below, and Camp Nine, a mile up.

The smoke was not much of a smudge as yet, but Jack knew it must be from nearby for there was no wind. There should not be any brush burning in the slash, for no permits had been issued by the Forest Service for weeks. Jack had been a smoke-chaser himself, before he took to swarming up tall trees, and he decided he had better report that smoke. Besides, it would give him an excuse to talk to Fay Somers at the Mt. Emily Fire Tower. That was about as far as his two-way walkie-talkie set would reach, five miles.

He swung his little portable battery set off his shoulders and began to call:

"Hello, hello! High Climber Rennie, Siskiyou, calling Tower Twenty-three, Mt. Emily. Calling Fay Somers, hello, hello!"

Jack had got Fay interested in his hand-made walkie-talkie. She was interested in radio, meteorology, ballistics, aeronautics and a lot of other scientific things, which was natural; for her father, the professor, was a science shark who was now occupied in experimenting secretly with a new type plane that would fly straight up. This much was all Fay would tell anyone. Jack called Fay his science teacher, in a semi-derisive sort of way. He could not quite understand why a girl with so much beauty as well as brains seemed interested more in things than in people, especially men, more especially himself. But radio helped draw her attention to him. It was gradually replacing or augmenting the wired phone between fire towers and headquarters. The severe electrical storms that send flashing fire, in the shape of lightning, down into the woods, often without rain, kindled forest fires and literally melted wires to grey ashes, leaving a towerman isolated at critical times.

Fay's voice came in, faintly at first, then clearly:

"Hello, High Climber. This is Tower Twenty-three, Mt. Emily. Fay Somers speaking. Hello, Jack Rennie. What is it?"

"Top of the morning to you, High Holder. I'm talking from a spar tree. I can smell smoke down here. Can you locate it?"

"Just a minute! It's been very hazy and I thought I saw mist rising over your way . . . I've got it now! Jack, it's very close to you. Wait! I'll take a protractor reading with Tower Twenty-three. Keep on the wave!" she warned.

Jack did, but to waste no time pulled his cross-cut saw up by the rope to his belt and sliced off a big limb. It floated down through the branches of other trees to the ground and he tackled another. The spar was needed today. The company was snaking out wood at the rate of thousands of feet a day for a hundred different uses. Jack worked hard at his job. He was the best of the breed of human wildcats who rigged spars in this neck of the woods, absolutely fearless of high places, had been a para-jumper, able to steer his chute down into a hole in the woods from a plane, which was the latest way of getting to a fire, fast.

JACK could hear the sounds of machinery down at Camp Three, giant cats roaring and snorting, the donkey puffing, the drum that wound the cable whining, block and tackle squealing, a steam jammer groaning as it lifted the logs the high lead brought to the yard on the bunks of gigantic cats, capable of toting 20 tons of timber in one load. Only buckers and fallers were working at Camp Nine. Tomorrow they'd start hooking the stuff down on this new sky-line. It was a hurry-up job and took a lot of push and pull and high climbing.

The company had sent in a new bull-of-the-woods to put some push in it, "give her the snoose," as the loggers say. Jerry "Sock-em" Haskins was the bull, a hard-head, young and rather handsome, a bear with machinery and a real bull with men. He was making a play for Fay Somers, who was fascinated by machinery, and he had an edge on Jack because of transportation. A mountain pony took him up to Tower Twenty-three when he felt like going to see her. And although a high climber in a logging camp is, figuratively as well as literally, a lot above anyone else and his own boss, Haskins had tried to sneer Jack into leaving his walkie-talkie on the ground when he rigged a spar. He said he thought it was slowing him up with its extra weight.

"Next thing you know you'll be so loaded you'll have to be dropped into a tree from a plane," Haskins had said, sarcastically.

"I'll climb any tree in the woods with forty pounds more on me," Jack had retorted. "And I'll climb you, any time."

He meant that two ways and Haskins knew it and said something about smoking Jack out, sometime soon. Jack didn't take that seriously for he believed Haskins was yellow inside. He had the rep of having been a slugger, playing pro football.

Jack's receiver cracked and Fay's voice came in. He stopped sawing, sat on a limb and rubbed his eyes, now smarting from smoke.

"Listen, Jack! That smoke is at the lower end of the Camp Nine cut. That's where you are, you tell me. It looks like a slash burn. Don't you see it?"

"No. But I can smell and taste the smoke. Say, did Sockem file for a permit to burn brush?"

"Not with me, Jack. You'd better slide down and chase that smoke on the ground, I can't get anyone at Camp Nine."

"That job is up to Haskins. Where in — —?"

"Mr. Haskins is coming up the trail right now," Fay broke in.

"Oh, yeah? Then you send him right down to get the jacks onto this fire! The smoke is thickening fast and there is no watcher crew on the slash area."

"Maybe I ought to try for a plane to spot that smoke closer," Fay suggested. "Wait a minute, I'm getting another protractor reading."

"If this jumps into a crown fire I'll be a roast monkey," Jack mumbled.

"You'd better get down while you can, Jack," she warned, with a sort of gasp. "I'm sending a chaser crew up from town. I'll try to get that fast truck and some of the sawdust eater from the mill in. But, Jack, you get down!"

"I'm going to top this tree now," he replied stubbornly. "It will give me more air up here. I can hear the jacks at Camp Nine yelling. I reckon the fire's heading that way. I can't — —"

HE broke off, choking, as smoke drifted up through the dense foliage, strong with the scent of burning dead needles, pitch and punky wood. He couldn't see the ground now, and didn't know what he would drop into if he went down. He wished for wind but knew it would be worse for the woods if it came. He removed his headset to wipe his face and fan smoke with his hat, pulled out his little flat canteen, snatched a bandanna from his pocket, wet it and tied it loosely about his neck so he could pull it over his nose if needed. As he replaced his earphones he heard Fay in the middle of something:

" . . . will be here in a minute and I'll send him right down. Jack! Are you getting down? Are you down? The fire is jumping up! Hello, Jack Rennie!"

"Not—just—now," he managed to gasp, thrilling because Fay's voice was so sort of personal. "Got to clear—away more stuff—get more air—be better then."

He strangled on his words and pulled the wet kerchief over his face and went to work, hard. Looking down, he saw the reason for Fay's alarm. The fire was right beneath him and was burning high in the pile of green boughs he had lobbed off and which his groundman would have removed had he been there.

The flames couldn't reach him of course, but he was trapped in a smother of acrid smoke and flames were licking hungrily at the base of the tree.

He kept on working madly. It was the only thing he could think to do. The limbs, when they struck the ground, had the effect of smothering out the reaching flames—but only temporarily he discovered, for they sprawled out and landed lightly, forming a fine pile of tinder. Spurts of flames began to lick at the lower branches of young trees, left for seed for future tall timber. If they caught they would make torches that would blaze into the higher boughs of the big trees, those boughs that were so close to Jack's hot seat.

He began to saw off the top, slicing swiftly at the two-foot thick fir. When he had knocked off that bushy fifty-foot length, he would have a hole in the sky around him that ought to relieve him. Fighting fire on the ground a man could get a clean breath now and then by lying flat.

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A HOROSCOPE FOR SOCIAL CREDIT

What does the future hold for those who crossed over into the promised land with "Bible Bill?"

By FRED KENNEDY

Is the province of Alberta nearing the political crossroads? Is the world famous "Alberta Experiment" nearing an end?

Political observers all across Canada were asking this question today in advance of a possible provincial election in the summer of 1948 or 1949 and in the wake of 12 years of Social Credit administration and repeated charges by the Opposition that the Manning government has not yet implemented its 1935 pre-election promises of Social Credit dividends of \$25 per month and a "lower cost to live."

A lot of water has flowed down the Saskatchewan River since the tub-thumping days of 1935, when the late William Aberhart, first Canadian apostle of the theory of Social Credit, led his followers to an overwhelming victory in the provincial general election of that year.

The Social Crediters then captured 57 seats out of a total of 63 in the Alberta Legislative Assembly, staved off a concerted attack by Liberals and Conservatives under the Independent banner in the 1940 general election, and then won another signal victory at the polls in the general election of 1945.

Party supporters predict another easy win for the social credit administration at the next general elections, but experienced political observers profess to see signs which lead them to believe that the days of the Social Credit administration in Alberta are numbered.

In the first place, they do not believe that the condition of Mr. Manning's health would permit him to lead his party through the rigors of another political campaign. It is for this reason that a majority of the government backbenchers are in favor of the administration continuing in office until the summer of 1949 at least before seeking another mandate from the electors.

They would be willing to change their stand in the matter only if the federal government decided to call a general election this year. If a general election is called for 1948, the Alberta government also would go to the country. This strategy has been employed on previous occasions with marked success.

HOWEVER, there are other serious problems facing the administration. One is the internal party revolt which recently resulted in the dismissal of the Hon. R. E. Ansley, minister of education and an ardent Douglas Social Crediter, and the dismissal of L. D. Byrne, deputy minister of reconstruction and one of the two men sent to Canada by Major C. H. Douglas in 1937 to quell the revolt of government backbenchers at that time.

These dismissals were preceded by the dissolution of the Alberta Social Credit Board, a committee which had been set up by the Legislature following the party revolt in 1937.

When Mr. Manning announced that he had asked for the resignations of his minister of education and the deputy minister of reconstruction, it was generally believed that Mr. Ansley's supporters among the govern-

ment backbenchers would rally to his support on the floor of the legislature. He had been known as the leader of the Douglas Social Credit group in Alberta even before the 1935 elections and also was recognized as an expert on the Douglas theory of Social Credit.

STRANGELY enough, Mr. Ansley's transfer from the treasury benches to the back benches did not cause even the slightest ripple in the House. Political observers could not make up their minds whether Mr. Manning's speedy purge had whipped the rebels into line or whether they were biding their time and waiting for a more opportune time to show their hand. At the moment, the strength of the Douglas Social Credit supporters in the ranks of the government backbenchers is an unknown quantity, a fact which is worrying party leaders not a little.

A second problem facing the government is the potential voting strength of the Opposition—not in the House, but at the polls.

On the face of it, the Social Credit administration does not appear to have a worry in the world. They have driven the Liberal and Conservative opposition practically out of existence. The Independent movement is on the political rocks, the Liberals have decided to fight the next provincial election under the party banner. The Conservatives have decided to ignore the next provincial election so far as party candidates are concerned, and that leaves only the C.C.F. party to be reckoned with.

And what of the C.C.F.? On the face of it the C.C.F. could not win a provincial election in the next 50 years in Alberta. Despite this, Premier Manning has been paying special attention to the two C.C.F. party members in the House. He has slugged it out with them, toe to toe, on numerous occasions, and this has given rise to the belief that the government is of the opinion that the socialist party has some hidden reserve strength.

There is just a chance that Premier Manning is correct in his assumption. The C.C.F. has publicly spurned the Labor Progressive Party (Communists), a group that could not muster enough strength at the polls to elect even a dog catcher.

Above: The legislative building at Edmonton, Alberta.

It is a known fact that the C.C.F. has been courting the A.F.U. for several years now and not without good reason. There has been a lot of talk of presenting a common front. The A.F.U. stemmed from a group of left wing members of the United Farmers of Alberta and several months ago it claimed active membership of 60,000.

It is just possible therefore, that Premier Manning and his Social Credit party have more to worry them than it appears on the surface.

THERE is another important matter which is giving Social Credit party leaders considerable concern and that is the possible successor to Premier Manning.

Following the death of Premier Aberhart, only two ministers were mentioned as his possible successor. One was Hon. E. C. Manning, Mr. Aberhart's protege, and the other was Hon. Solon Low, provincial treasurer.

No one, outside of the cabinet, knows just what happened, but one bright day Albertans awoke to learn that Mr. Low had been named leader of the Canadian Social Credit League, and he was out of provincial politics. He now is leader of the Social Credit group in the Commons.

There was a suggestion at that time that some members of the provincial cabinet hailed Mr. Low's exit from the provincial government with considerable relief. He was regarded as an able, ambitious young man who commanded the respect of a number of the government backbenchers. The latest report in provincial government circles is that the Douglas Social Crediters would very much like to see the Hon. Mr. Low back in Alberta. They feel that he is the only member of the party who is capable of rallying the rank and file of the party around the Social Credit banner in the event of Premier Manning's resignation and subsequent general election, and the boom for Low for Premier is said to be gathering momentum.

Because of this situation, Premier Manning is said to have been urged to stay in office as long as possible and to stave off a general provincial election as long as possible.

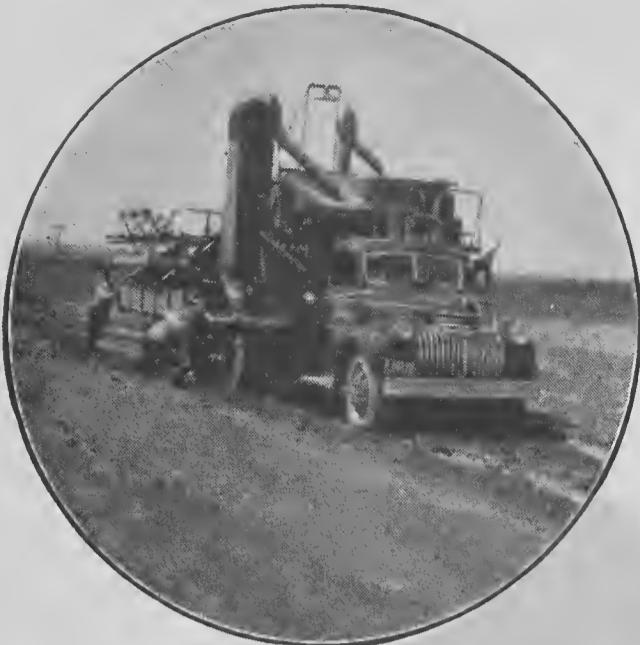
THIS mysterious thing called "Social Credit" has puzzled a lot of people for a long time, and even after 12 years of Social Credit administration, there are thousands of Alberta voters who are still hazy about the whole thing.

The following definition of Social Credit was given to members of the Agriculture committee of the Alberta legislature on April 6, 1934, by Major C. H. Douglas, founder of the theory:

"Social Credit, in its essence, is a correct estimate of the productive capacity of a given unit based upon that which is real Social Credit of the unit."

"You have something which we call financial credit which can also be made to be the reflection of this real Social Credit, and that, I should say, can be defined as the power of

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First day out. Caught on the mud grade at Flaxcombe.

WHAT a great human drama is the march of the harvest northward across the American plain! While we up here in the north are using every daylight hour, and many of the hours of darkness, in rushing in the seed of our spring wheat and other grains in April and May, our brothers and sisters in Texas and Oklahoma are starting to worry about the approach and arrival of the harvest of their early winter wheat; the seeding at one end of the great wheat belt—the ripening harvest at the other.

All my life I have wanted to see this slow march of the harvest, about 13 to 15 miles a day ever northward. In 1947 I was able to take a small and insignificant part in it.

Away back in the late '30's a Saskatchewan farmer conceived the idea, "Why not, when my own seeding is finished, load my combine on a truck and go south to Texas and follow the harvest north back home again?" The idea was taken up by his neighbors and others in the province. Both national governments were favorable to this new development of international co-operation.

WHEN World War II began, saving of food became paramount. So that new feature of international co-operation known as American-Canadian Combine Exchange came into being. We Canadians took our combines and went down there to help save their crop. That job done we came home and some of the Americans came up here to help save our harvest from the ever-present danger of the enveloping snow of winter, a practical demonstration of co-operation, tolerance and harmony between common, ordinary, everyday farmers of two great friendly nations.

All this had developed till in the spring of 1947 over a thousand combines from Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba crossed the border and helped save the bumper crop which Uncle Sam was fortunate enough to

Below: Crossing the Missouri at Pierre, S.D.

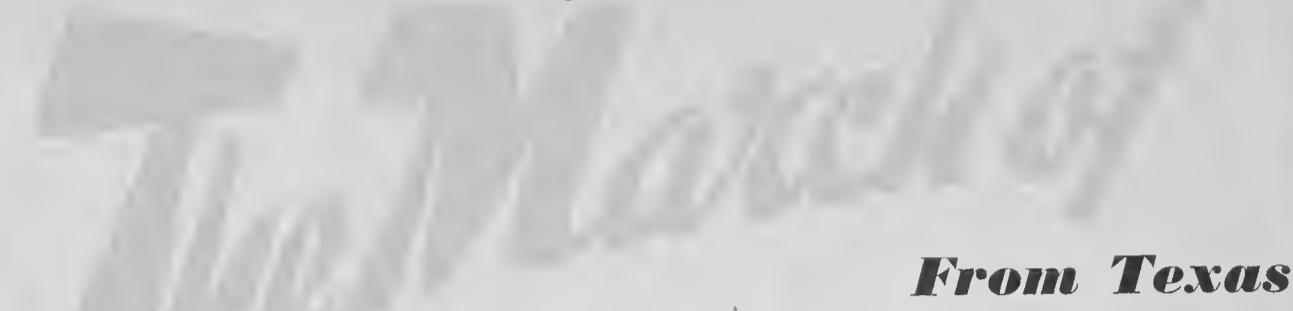


Above: Strings of laden trucks at an internal terminal.

tour to make a great educational film based on food and peace and harmony? Nobody in Hollywood was interested unless it was in combination with a silly love story. That I did not want. I approached Motion Picture Production Services of the United States Department of Agriculture, and our own National Film Board. The idea and the ideal clicked simultaneously in both places.

But there still remained the great problem of short supply. Trucks were almost impossible to secure. But General Motors helped us by supplying three trucks. Finally, we had everything rounded up, and what a nightmare that planning and preparation had been all through the winter months.

Spring came at last—rather a late one—rushing in the seed, ground saturated with moisture from the preceding fall. Day and night we worked, as always. Getting stuck in wet ground, the ever-present nightmare of unobtainable repairs. All this, and then it happened.



From Texas

One night I woke up at three a.m. My son, John, came in and said, "Dad, the transmission is gone out of the tractor." With light we found that an important shaft was broken. Where could we get it? There was none in Calgary. The company searched by plane and wire but no shaft could be got. Finally, a machine company made one. But nearly two weeks of irreplaceable time had been lost. In the end we were able to borrow a tractor from a neighbor. We hired some seeding done by a custom worker, and then our tractor came on the job.

In the meantime, the promise of a bumper crop in the United States had become a certainty. Rains in April and May completed the picture, so Uncle Sam would need lots and lots of combines to save this crop in time.

THEN the National Film Board camera crew came along, Roger Morin of Ottawa, an experienced and capable director with many successful projects in Film Board work to his credit, and Johnny Martin, his assistant, from Calgary.

On the third day of June we were all loaded up, permits and insurance secured, and we were ready to start. We had to have a sunny day because a full color picture requires clear, brilliant sunshine. Lots of the neighbors gathered to see us off and to accompany us as far as our home town of Hanna, where our Mayor Shacker was to wave us goodbye.

Let us take a brief glance at our line-up. In the



Two Canadian combines working in a Texas field.



lead was our smaller ton-and-a-half truck, with grain box, trailing a 16-foot modern house trailer. In the cab was my son, John, Frank Simpson, a neighborhood bachelor who was going along as cook, and myself. In the rear of the truck, protected by a tarpaulin top, were the two National Film Board men, their equipment, groceries and various assorted items of baggage.

Next was my own two-ton truck, driven by Roy and Dave Monroe, with my Massey-Harris 14-foot self-propelled combine loaded on it, and pulling a 20-foot sleeping and equipment trailer, on which was a tent fourteen by nine, with sleeping accommodation for six men in the rear. The front was loaded with spare tires, dual wheels, National Film Board equipment, air compressor, etc.

A NEIGHBOR, Ted Quaschnick, had decided to come along, so his three-ton was next, with his 12-foot, self-propelled Cockshutt combine, and pulling another 20-foot trailer on which was loaded the combine platforms, grain loaders, repairs, pick-ups, and many other pieces of spare equipment. Along with him as his crew, were Ray Hoffman and George Edwards.

We left the home farm with a long string of cars and trucks behind us. With the Hanna pictures and goodbyes over, we rolled east over No. 9 highway towards the Saskatchewan boundary. Here, as usual, we gambled a little. From our home there were two choices of routes. We could go west on No. 9 high-

In 1947 J. K. Sutherland of Hanna, Alta., took his combine down to Texas and worked his way back with the ripening harvest. He was accompanied by camera men who recorded a film about to be released. Here is his own intimate story

To Alberta

way, via Drumheller, Calgary, Lethbridge, Coutts, and east in Montana; or we could go east on No. 9 highway, away south and east in Saskatchewan and cross over at Oungre in Saskatchewan into North Dakota. This route was 332 miles shorter. But there was a catch in it. There were 80 miles of highway without any gravel on it, and if you got caught with a rainstorm on it you might have to pay a heavy price. We took the chance on the ungravelled highway.

YES, we lost. Rain and dusk hit us two or three miles from Alsask, on the boundary line between the two provinces. We had about 35 or 40 miles to go to hit the gravel, and the rest of the way was gumbo. To anyone who knows anything about trucking or soil conditions, 'nuff said. We limped and slid into parking positions with the aid of a tractor in Alsask, and all that night it poured and most of the next day. It was three days before we decided the road condition was fit to travel on with our heavy, cumbersome loads.

small town before darkness overtook us. But sometimes we got caught on long miles of high grade with no place to turn off, and fields and dirt roads were quite often a sodden mess in Saskatchewan and through at least four States ahead of us.

Roger and Johnny were sleeping when we came to the magnificent view of the crossing of the north end of Buffalo Lake. We had to take some pictures here so Buffalo Lake would be in the film. More miles of splendid, good wheat soil and Moose Jaw in the distance. On we went, and then bump—our first low underpass, beneath the Canadian Pacific main line. We took a quick measurement, just a little over 12 feet, and we needed at the very least, 13 feet four inches.

It was a high grade, no place to turn around. A passing farmer told us that there was a level crossing a mile east. Sandwiches and coffee again as we mulled over this problem. I noticed a gate going into a golf course to one side. Everybody on the course seemed to be a long way off. Finally I located a caretaker and asked if the organization would allow us to come in and turn around on the grass and drive out again. There was hesitation.

Then, as it dawned on the worthy caretaker that we were both racially Scots akin, he gave the nod. Once more we rolled



State officials assist in securing contracts with farmers.

Then, as it dawned on the worthy caretaker that we were both racially Scots akin, he gave the nod. Once more we rolled

customs men were in Fortuna, North Dakota. So, clicking cameras, we rolled out of Oungre across to where it said gravely and with dignity, "You are now entering the State of North Dakota," the first of many similar signs we would meet and leave ere our long harvest tour would be finished.

FORTUNA, the American port of entry; still raining, and Roger in deep, dark, despair. The U.S. customs and immigration, fingerprints, papers, but courtesy and efficiency and more pictures. Occasionally a cloud would break and allow a few seconds of sun, just to tempt Roger. However, we did our best between splashes of rainfall, and then on we rolled, thankful that we were on the first of Uncle Sam's hard surface roads. That night in good time we bivouaced at Ray.

Again next morning fog and drizzling rain and, yes, southeast head winds. Breakfast at Berthold, and still east we roared against the wind to Minot. Here we saw two outfits from Saskatchewan rolling south. They had their combines loaded different from ours. They had the platforms of their combines still on above the cabs of the trucks. (Turn to page 38)

Below: Grease monkeys.



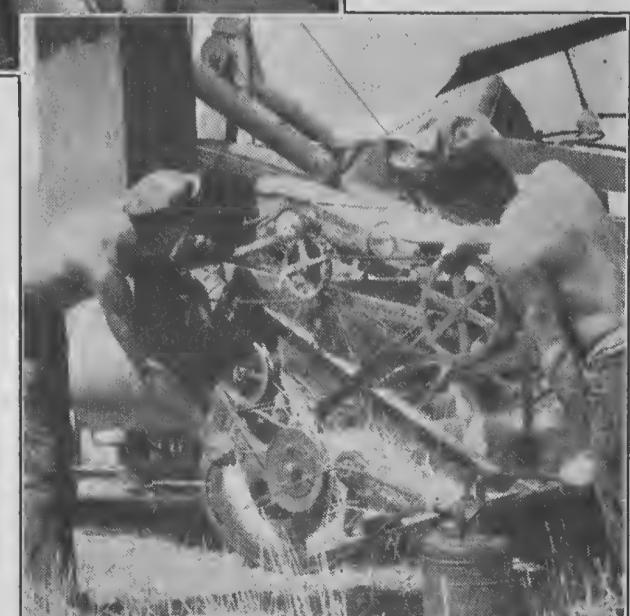
The heat was terrific.

with a fervent resolve to try to spot low underpasses before we got too close to them, and with a further resolve to do our best in our United Farmers' of Alberta to get a resolution through to have all such underpasses sign-boarded a good distance away with the approximate height.

Going through the eastern side of Moose Jaw on Highway No. 1 we stopped at a service station to load up some gas. Just as I finished, a nice new car drew up. The driver stopped and said he had been told we were on our way to Texas. Then a young lady got out, and was she something to behold! Dorothy Lamour and Hedy Lamarr and our own Barbara Ann Scott, all of them rolled into one. Her folks were in Texas. She wanted to go down and see them. She was a good cook, so the man said. She would cook all the way down and back. Would we take her?

RELUCTANTLY, we told her of the bachelor cook we already had—'nuff said. Slowly, sadly, we rolled out of Moose Jaw, each one of the nine of us (the cook excepted) all taken up with the sad implications of what might have been.

That afternoon we bucked the first of many hundreds of miles of head winds, and what a tough, expensive





The Man Who Waved the Flag

It goes to show how important a place on the school board may be

By H. GORDON GREEN

YOU would think our hired man would be the last person in the world to start trouble, because Joe Blanding is just about as quiet a man as you ever see in our parts. He was so quiet we didn't even know where he came from or anything much about him. Not that he would tell you to mind your own business if you asked, but Joe was just the kind who would talk about anything in the world except himself. You would never think that he could start a revolution.

You would never think of him as being flag-happy either. Didn't seem loud enough for that. Of course us kids knew that Joe was always doing queer things; like feeding a pair of pet crows and collecting different kinds of rock and carving the Lord's Supper out of a hunk of pine stump. But that about the flag beat anything, and that's what started all the trouble.

It was one morning along about the first of March when my kid brother Marvin said something at the breakfast table about how our teacher Miss Harris was trying to get Ole Larsen to pronounce his words right and how funny it sounded. "We call him the dumb Dane," Marvin said. "Danes are all dumb mostly."

Dad looked at Mom and Mom told him he shouldn't talk like that. But he just laughed and said he was saying the same as all the rest of the kids.

I saw Joe look up from his porridge and before he hitched up the Hackney that morning to drive us to school he went upstairs and got a big Canadian Ensign out of his room and brought it along.

Our school down in New Brunswick had a flag-pole like any other school but the last flag it waved was one we got for selling war stamps and when that went to tatters nobody ever bothered about getting another. Like Joe said that morning on the way over, "People are always patriotic lad, when there's a taste of blood in their mouth. When the fighting is over the flag is just like your old winter underwear is in the spring. Dirty and all worn out and you don't care anyhow."

While Joe was standing there in the school yard with the flag slung over his shoulder and fixing the rope, he gave us a little lesson about it. "See this little shield in the red part? Not one person in a dozen knows what that stands for." And he told us. The yellow lions for England, the red lion for Scotland, the woman with the harp growing out of her back for Ireland, and the fleur-de-lis for France.

"All equal, see?"

Same old guff, I thought. Joe's going politician on us!

BUT I could see what he was getting at, all right, because we live up in the potato section of New Brunswick where we've got more kinds of people than Heinz has pickles, and we used to fight about it at recess time like the big folks fought about it down town Saturday nights. We had English, and Danes, and Irish and French and Yanks; besides a lot of other families like ours without any special pedigree of any kind, in which case we just bragged about being 100 per cent Canadian. We used to fight about it so much in the school yard that sometimes the parents would demand a trustee meeting and then there really would be a scrap. Once we went back to school next morning to find half the seats ripped loose and ink bottles smashed on the wall where they had missed somebody, and poor Miss Harris looking like she wished she'd been a missionary to Tibet instead of a teacher.

So when Joe started talking about the shield on the flag that morning I had an idea what he was aiming at. "And see this part down here at the bottom with the maple leaves? That's left over for other kinds of people," Joe said. And I saw him looking up at Ole Larsen.

So we ran the flag up the pole and stood there for a minute watching her flap red and pretty against the blue sky. Then Miss Harris came up the walk and Joe smiled and lifted his old fedora and got red in the neck and said he would have to be going. He was awful shy that way, Joe was.

Well, you wouldn't have thought there was anything wrong with that, but when I went down to the store for the mail at noon hour, Bull Hallatt was sit-

ting out on the veranda with a bunch of other tobacco spitters and he said "Hey lad, what's going on up there? Where did the flag come from?" Bull was trustee. Chairman.

"Joe Blanding put it up. It's his," I told him.

Bull untipped his chair. "Now what business has he got sticking his nose into school affairs!" he said.

One of the other men started to laugh. "Looks like you got competition Bull. Better look into it."

Everybody in the section knew that Bull was sweet on the teacher. At a barn dance another guy couldn't look sidewise at her without getting invited outside.

Bull said "Competition hell! From that little Moses? That isn't what I'm worried about. I just don't like people sticking their noses in school business when they've got no right to. If there's got to be a flag why didn't the teacher ask the board for one? What do we need one for anyhow? Guess I'll have to see Joe about this."

That night I told Joe that Bull was going to see him. Joe smiled and said he wasn't worried. "Men like Bull don't go around talking things over man to man," he said. "Unless it's to a woman or some kids they have to be in front of a crowd when they do their talking."

But I wasn't so sure about it because I'd seen Bull put a Frenchy to sleep for two hours one Saturday night over an argument on conscription. And Joe had a game leg.

Joe saw me looking worried. "Scared I couldn't take him, lad?" He reached up to a stable peg and took one of the Hackney's old shoes and worked on it till it tore right apart in his bare hands. I never knew Joe was so strong like that. He wasn't the kind to brag generally.

But like he said Bull never came round to see him and every nice day when Joe drove us to school, the flag went up and waved there all day till he came to take us home again, and nobody ever said anything to him.

THEN one evening about the middle of March when winter was just beginning to drain down the hillsides, and the ditches were all full of white water and brave frogs and kid's racing boats, Joe asked Mom for the lend of her sewing machine. Joe could do anything. Jack-at-all-trades. And that night he took three big pieces of tough cloth, one orange, one white and one green and he sewed them into another flag.

Dad kept looking over his shoulder. "Never saw a flag like that."

"Irish," Joe said. "Tomorrow's St. Patrick's Day. Good people, the Irish. Give you the shirt off their backs."

"And you'll be needing a shirt if you fly that tomorrow," Dad told him.

But Joe flew it anyhow. He let Tommie Ryan take care of the raising, and he made a little speech about the Irish and told us a joke about how the shamrock became Ireland's emblem. And after he had gone we all scurried around for bits of green clover where the snow had gone away, and when the bell rang we all went into class with something green stuck somewhere or other, and giggling because we had done something new. Everybody was Irish that day.

But when I went down to the store for the mail at noon, Bull Hallatt was roaring. "And now what kind of a flag have you got!" he asked.

"It's the Irish flag. For St. Patrick's Day."

"What has St. Patrick or Ireland to do with this country!" He yelled at me as if I were to blame.

"Joe says the Irish are good people. Give you the shirts off their backs."

"I suppose it was good of them to sit the war out when the rest of us were struggling on our knees to keep going? I always wondered what kind of a queer that Blanding was. So he's Irish! Well by the Lord Harry if he wants to fly a rag like that let him go back to Ireland where it belongs! That's an insult to every single man who ever went across to fight, and I'm going to see that something is done about it!"

I guess he did do something about it too because next morning at the table Dad said "Bull and Mickey Ryan had quite a go of it down at the village last

(Turn to page 54)

PLANNED IMPROVEMENT PAYS OFF

Forage crops and purebred sires are bringing results for Athabaska farmers

By H. S. FRY

THE town of Athabaska, an old Hudson's Bay Company fort, is located between 90 and 100 miles almost straight north of Edmonton. It takes its name from the Athabasca River, on whose bank it is located, and is situated on the southern tip of a deep bend which the river makes to avoid the Pelican Mountains northwest of Smith. The Athabasca has its source almost on the boundary between Alberta and British Columbia, almost due west of Penhold, Alberta. It is at this point where the waters flowing into the mighty Columbia and thence into the Pacific Ocean are divided from the waters which form the Athabasca River and ultimately find their way into the mighty Mackenzie and thence into the Arctic Ocean.

Northward beyond the town of Athabaska lies a comparatively narrow strip of country leading past Lesser Slave Lake into the Peace River district of Alberta via High Prairie. East of Athabaska about 40 miles is Flatbush and west about 60 miles is Lac La Biche. Surrounding Athabaska in all, is a territory of about 9,000 square miles of irregular shape, approximately 60 miles wide and 160 miles long. It therefore contains approximately 5½ million acres, of which about half a million acres, or nine per cent, is estimated to be cultivated. Living in the area are approximately 3,000 farm families who are served by 55 post offices. This area is served by the Alberta Department of Agriculture through its office in Athabaska in charge of District Agriculturist G. L. Godel.

Now, something is going on in this territory which the casual visitor wouldn't suspect for a moment. The country is fairly rough in parts. It contains a great deal of wooded land as might be expected. The cleared land is not continuous and its extent is, therefore, not readily appreciated. It is not a farming area where market grains, especially wheat, can become a major source of income, and this means that the farmers of the district must rely on the development of livestock as a main source of income.

FORTUNATELY, also, the area has been found well adapted to the production of forage crop seed, and when I visited the area last summer, Mr. Godel informed me that the annual production of alfalfa seed was approximately one million pounds, Altaswede clover 750,000 pounds, sweet clover about 750,000 pounds and alsike 250,000 pounds. Actually between 80,000 and 100,000 acres of forage crops are located in the district.

What is going on in this whole area, sponsored by both Dominion and provincial departments of agriculture, and centred in the office of the District Agriculturist, who works closely with the Municipal Service Board, is a consistent and well-planned program of agricultural improvement designed to develop a successful farming area by a series of well-planned steps. Until this program was started around five years ago, forage crops hadn't been given much emphasis. The livestock of the district was notable for its poor quality. The truth of this could be demonstrated almost any time market cattle came up from the north to the Edmonton yards. Visitors who saw a poor bunch of cattle were almost certain to be told "these are Athabaska cattle."

One of the reasons for poor cattle from the district was a chronic deficiency in feed supplies. Forage crops were not grown to any extent. The quantity of hay that could be harvested in any year was variable. Pastures might be uncertain and the cattle were the proof of it.

It was logical, then, that the first step in the program was to improve the feed supply of the district. Forage crops were the answer. Emphasis on forage crops makes possible a four-way answer to the problems of the area. They provide a cash crop for farmers in years when the seed sets well; making possible substantial quantities of hay when the seed is not promising. They build up an adequate feed supply and in this way tie in with the utilization of

rough land for pasture. They help to maintain the fertility of the soil and are something of a guarantee of good crops in the future; and finally, since the area is not adapted to quality wheat, they provide a balance for the home-grown grain of the district which can be marketed to best advantage through livestock.

The next step in the program was the improvement of purebred sires in the area. In a district suitable to the production of market cattle, both breed and purity of breeding are important. The end to be achieved is an output of uniform, quality cattle. This seemed to call for the selection of some one breed on which to place the emphasis, and the breed chosen for the Athabaska area was the Shorthorn.

Today, in the Municipal District of Athabaska, there are more than 200 registered bulls in service, of which a minimum of two-thirds are Shorthorns. In one group of four townships, and in another group of six townships, Shorthorn sires are used exclusively. In the areas where the district policy has made most progress, it is now possible for any farmer to go in any direction to breed his cows to a Shorthorn sire.

The cattle improvement policy has been based on the bull improvement policies of the Dominion and provincial departments of agriculture. Twenty bull-loaning clubs under the Dominion government policy were started in 1947 and the entire district still needed an additional 20 clubs, although the total number of bull clubs already in existence was 59. These clubs were pretty well distributed over the district, three of them as far north as Smith, 12 in the area north of Athabaska, 13 southwest of Athabaska, 15 southeast, three in the Bluejay district, and seven in the Wandering River district north of Plamondon. In addition there were three Angus clubs south of Collinton.

Mr. Godel made it plain that bull clubs were not being organized unless there was a genuine desire on the part of farmers in the district, and an undertaking not to go back to scrub sires later. It is calculated that one club bull probably replaces five scrubs. One of the advantages of planning to have the cattle of an area nearly all of the same breed is that if difficulties arise leading perhaps to disputes or a desire of some one or more breeders for a sire of better quality, any individual can always acquire his own herd sire without disturbing the general improvement program of the area. Moreover, it is always possible to move a particular sire from one club to another, and quite quickly adjust the details in any way without disturbing the program for the whole area.

Where groups of farmers or individuals want to get and own their own purebred sire, the provincial cattle improvement policy is available to assist purchases up to 25 per cent of the purchase price, with a maximum loan of \$100. This policy offers encouragement to those who, either individually or in small groups, prefer to choose a bull of type and breeding which they believe will best suit their individual herds.

NEXT to the increase in the number of purebred sires through the use of bull clubs and assisted bull purchase, is a plan for purebred sire areas. In mid-1947, the area north of Athabaska River, containing about 200 farms, was all signed up ready for a purebred area to be established last fall. Another area of 33 townships was expected to be signed up for a similar area before the turn of the year, and it is hoped that the entire municipality of Athabaska, comprising 50 townships, will be signed up by the fall of 1948. In any district established as a purebred sire area, about two-thirds of the ratepayers must be signed up. The area may apply to any or all types of livestock, but there cannot be any restriction as to breed. The first purebred sire area in Alberta was

Richard Rawlings,
Meanook, Alta., in a
field of crested wheat
grass.

E. S. Parsons, Boyle,
seeks fruit advice
from Dr. R. J. Hilton,
Univ. of Alta.

A splendid field of
Altaswede clover on
the Rawlings farm.
The Parsons farm
house is well kept
and roomy.

(Turn to page 31)



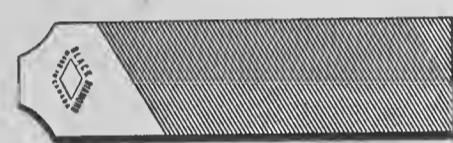
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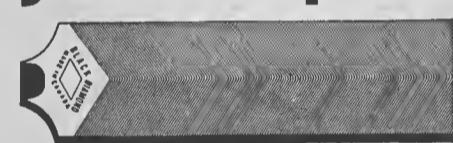
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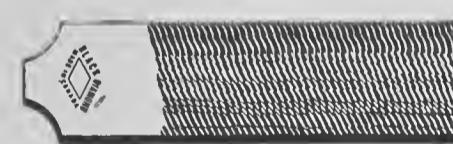
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Shown above: Flat File, Mill File, Websaw File and Half Round Wood Rasp.

NICHOLSON FILE CO., Port Hope, Ontario



Crieffvechter Empire, champion Shorthorn at the Perth (Scotland) sale in February, bought by Richardson Stock Farms, Winnipeg, for 3,000 gs. (\$12,700).

Perth Sales

THE annual Shorthorn sale at Perth, Scotland, early in February, following judging by J. Charles Yule, manager of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede, saw 306 bulls sold for an average of £365 and 67 heifers for an average of £178. One hundred and seven bulls were bought for export, including 81 for Argentina, 15 for the United States and seven for Canada. Top price was 6,000 gs. paid for the Reserve Champion and sold to Argentina. Richardson Stock Farms, Winnipeg, bought the Supreme Champion, Crieffvechter Empire, a red January bull bred by W. D. Dron, and sired by Millhills Yesteryear, for 3,000 gs.

There were 23 four-figure prices for bulls, 13 from Argentina, five from home breeders, two from South Africa and Canada, and one from the United States.

At the Perth Aberdeen-Angus sale a week earlier, the 1946 breed record of 7,500 gs. was threatened when Emor of Derculich sold for 7,100 gs. to a Scottish purchaser. Unlike the Shorthorn sale, at which exactly the same number of bulls were sold, the 1948 average of £297 was higher than in either of the previous two years. There were 16 four-figure prices, six of which came from exporters who bought in all 40 bulls and 11 heifers. Thirty-five bulls went to Argentina and the remainder to the United States and New Zealand.

I.F.A.P. Will Meet In Paris

ON May 19-29, the International Federation of Agricultural Producers will hold its second annual general meeting in Paris, France. It is expected that there will be a number of important constitutional, membership and financial questions to be dealt with affecting the organization itself, in addition to which the Policy Committee will have many other important problems to consider and report back to the general meeting. These will include the general policy of the Federation on national and international levels, the relationship between the I.F.A.P. and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, as well as many other problems having to do with developments now taking place in world agriculture.

National agricultural programs in relation to their effect on trade will come under careful scrutiny by the meeting. The question of commodity agreements and other forms of international trade development as they affect agriculture, and the stabilization of commodity prices internationally, will be carefully reviewed. The development of co-operation among farmers the world over, and the supply of fertilizers, will provide

other fields for study. A third important field will be the question of levels of living among farmers the world over and the consideration of world farm welfare generally. There will likewise be many current problems relating to individual farm products: The production of milk, the world cereals position, as well as that of dairy products.

In the face of political conditions in Europe, there has been some uncertainty as to whether the meeting in Paris could actually be held, but at this writing the latest information is that it will proceed as planned.

Agriculture Recovers in Belgium

AGRICULTURE in Belgium was badly interfered with during the war. In pre-war years Belgium grew about 80 per cent of her own food requirements in terms of money, and provided about one-sixth of the national revenue. During the war, the soil was exhausted, livestock much reduced and equipment worn out. Poultry was reduced to 20 per cent of the pre-war numbers, pigs to 40 per cent, and cattle to 75 per cent; but poultry now is back to 60 per cent of normal, pigs to 65 per cent, and cattle to 88 per cent.

Since the war it has been impossible to import cereals and other basic food-stuffs, which meant the switching of much pasture and horticulture land to the production of cereals, potatoes and sugar beets. In 1945, the value of agriculture production was about 66 per cent of that in 1938 and about one-sixth of the population works directly or indirectly in agriculture. The industry is primarily of a family character which makes for high social stability owing to the fact that there are proportionally more independent people to be found among farmers than in other classes of Belgian society.

Farm organizations are taking a prominent place in Belgian recovery. The largest of these is the Boerenbond, which is confined almost exclusively to the Belgian Flemish party and has about 100,000 members, formed into guilds in each locality. Within the society there is an insurance society covering all farm risks, a technical service, which makes available to members first-class modern agricultural equipment, and many other specialized branches.

Agricultural Scholarships

AN announcement was recently made by Dr. J. F. Booth, president of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, that again this year an open competition will be held for 20 scholarships of \$800 each, which will be available for post-

graduate studies in the field of scientific agriculture. This represents the third year in which the Institute has sponsored such a competition which has been made possible by contributions made by Canadian firms interested in the progress of Canadian agriculture.

During the previous two years, 42 outstanding Canadian agricultural students have been assisted by scholarships which are open to graduates in agriculture and to holders of other degrees providing a suitable background for graduate work. All applicants must be residents of Canada, and applications must be made by June 1 to the General Secretary, Agricultural Institute of Canada, Ottawa, on forms available for the purpose. Final selection of the successful applicants will be made by a special committee under the chairmanship of Dr. R. D. Sinclair, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Alberta, Edmonton.

Hay and Pasture Crop Seed 1947

WITH the exception of alfalfa seed, none of the important hay and pasture seed crops in Canada was produced as abundantly in 1947 as in 1946. The value of production declined by \$1,713,000. The 10,835,000 pounds of alfalfa seed produced last year was worth \$53,000 less than the 8,300,000 pounds produced in 1946.

The most important hay and pasture seed crop was timothy. In 1946 production was 14,705,000 pounds, but the quantity in 1947 was only 11,261,000 pounds. Sweet clover production dropped from 11,903,000 pounds of seed to 9,632,000 pounds. Brome grass also decreased from 8,850,000 to 7,570,000 pounds. Although the quantities produced of sweet clover, timothy and brome grass differ very considerably, the money value of the three crops was pretty much the same in each of these two years, running a little less than \$900,000 for each crop in 1946 and averaging about \$775,000 for each of the three crops in 1947. Production of crested wheat grass seed in 1947 was less than half that of 1946, and the value was cut from \$111,000 to \$63,000.

Last year, Saskatchewan produced almost as much alfalfa seed as the other three western provinces combined. Her production was five million pounds. Alberta produced 2.5 million pounds, Manitoba 2.1 million pounds, and British Columbia 825,000 pounds. Alberta led in sweet clover production with five million pounds, and Manitoba followed with three million pounds, Saskatchewan 1.25 million pounds, and British Columbia 152,000 pounds. Alberta also led with brome grass production at four million pounds, Saskatchewan following with two million pounds, and Manitoba with 1.5 million pounds. British Columbia produced only 70,000 pounds of brome grass seed last year. Only Saskatchewan and Manitoba produced crested wheat grass seed in 1947, Saskatchewan leading with 500,000 and Manitoba supplying the remaining 25,000 pounds. British Columbia led the western provinces in production of timothy seed. Alberta produced none, Saskatchewan only 15,000 pounds, Manitoba 200,000, and British Columbia 450,000.

The total value of all hay and pasture seed crops is estimated for last year at \$8,877,000, or 17 per cent less than the \$10,490,000 estimated for 1946.

The Costs of Farming

DURING 1947, the cost of commodities and services used by farmers shot up at a more rapid rate of increase than at any time since 1939. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues a bulletin on farm costs in January, April and August of each year. Data are available back as far as 1922, though from 1922 to 1939 they are on an annual basis, and from 1940 to 1943, for April and August only of each year.

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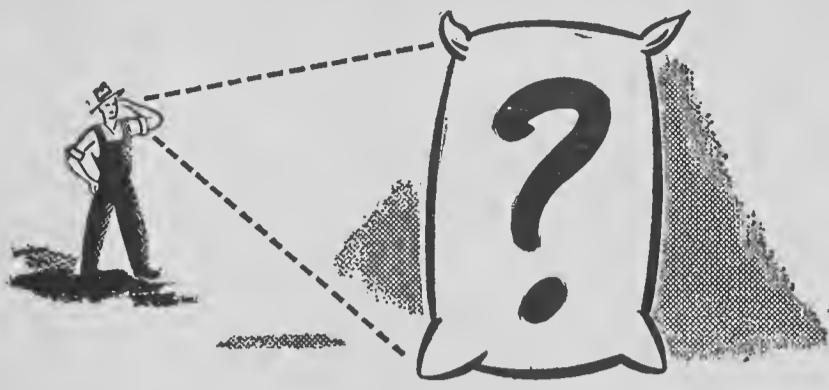
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Dear Sirs:

I have been using Miracle Feed for my hens and I thought I would let you know the good results I have been having. I got the chicks from the Provincial. They are New Hampshire and I have fed them the Miracle way from the start. I am now getting 380 eggs per day, from 400 hens. This is December and I have not had trouble with them moulting. I am very pleased with the good results I've had with Miracle Feeds.

Yours very truly,

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The Bureau was careful to point out that these indexes reflect actual price changes only. They do not show variations in total farm costs resulting from the changes in quantity of items purchased. Neither do these indexes represent all the factors of farm operation. Such items as repairs to machinery and other equipment, insurance, veterinary charges, blacksmithing, breeding fees, sacks and containers, hired threshing and capital expenditure for livestock and automobiles represent about 40 per cent of total expenses, but about two-thirds of their value represents capital expenditure and, therefore, these costs are not incorporated into the composite index.

The composite index, intended to represent the over-all level of farm costs, consists of four separate indexes, namely those for equipment and materials, tax and interest rates, wage rates, and farm family living costs.

The over-all level of farm costs in 1939 stood at 99.3. By January, 1947, this index stood at 141.8, and by January, 1948, it had climbed to 168.5. This was for all of Canada. For western Canada, the composite index for 1939 was 99.6. It rose to 132.6 by January, 1946; to 138.9 by January, 1947, and to 162.1 by January, 1948.

Between 1939 and January, 1948, equipment and materials rose from 96.1 in Canada to 167.5; in western Canada from 96.7 to 157.7. Tax and interest rates in Canada rose from 100.6 in the same period, to 116.4, and in western Canada from 102.7 to 130.8. Farm wage rates in Canada rose from 108.1 to 303.1, and in western Canada from 108 to 274.9 (363.1 in August, 1947). Farm family living costs in 1939 were 99.5 and 155.2 in January, 1948. In western Canada, the increase was from 99.5 to 155.7.

Among the principal items making up the equipment and materials index, implements, in western Canada, rose from 103.3 to 121.7 from 1939 to January, 1948; fertilizers from 107.2 to 133.9; seed from 76.9 to 253.6; feed from 78.7 to 196.2; gasoline, oil and grease from 93.9 to 126.6; building materials from 108.1 to 225.6; hardware from 101 to 143.3, and binder twine from 93.8 to 226.2.

Property taxes increased in cost from 108.8 to 165.8 from 1939 to January, 1948, and interest on mortgages decreased from 95.2 to 87.8.

Of the items making up the composite family living costs in western Canada, food increased from 95.7 in 1939 to 177.1 in 1948; clothing from 101.1 to 157.8; fuel from 100.2 to 162.7; household equipment from 101.2 to 170.6; health maintenance from 100.9 to 134.4, and miscellaneous items from 100.5 to 113.2.

Rain-making in Australia

AUSTRALIA has experimented with artificial rain-making to an extent that is said to be of greater probable significance than has been achieved elsewhere. Eight different clouds were used. In one test, declared to be the most spectacular, 150 pounds of dry ice or granulated carbon dioxide was dropped from an aircraft into a cloud. Rain echoes were detected on the radar equipment of the plane within five minutes. A further 150 pounds of dry ice was released, and 21 minutes after the first release, heavy rain came from the base of the cloud. One hour and six minutes after the first release, the aircraft descended well below the cloud base and saw a pillar of rain reaching the ground over at least 20 square miles.

Britain's Food Problem

IN Britain, there are less than 57 million acres of land to support approximately 47 million people. During the war the armed services utilized 11.5 million acres, but of this, more than 10 million acres has been released for civilian use.

Land is valuable for food production and in future the various armed services will require to use 1,027,000 acres, of which only about 14 per cent will be cultivable land, and only about 14,000 acres good agricultural land. Of the remainder, the greater part of the moorland, heathland or forest land will be available for grazing.

Britain must conserve her land for food production as much as possible in view of her current financial difficulties. Substantial portions of the grain, meat and dairy produce she has to import comes from hard-currency countries. In 1947, for example, she imported £122 million worth of grain and flour, of which £76 million was paid to Canada, £19 million to the U.S., and £18 million to Argentina—all dollar or hard-currency countries. She also bought meat to the value of £125 million, and £110 million worth of dairy produce. Canada supplied £17 million pounds worth of meat and £11 million worth of dairy products. Dairy produce from the United States cost her £37 million and meat £7 million. From Argentina Britain bought meat to the value of £43 million and grain and flour £18 million.

Dr. L. H. Newman Retires

DR. L. H. NEWMAN has retired after 25 years as Dominion Cerealist at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. He succeeded the late Dr. Charles Saunders who developed Marquis wheat; and during his own regime there has been developed the rust-resistant hard, red spring wheats, Renown, Regent and



Dr. L. H. NEWMAN

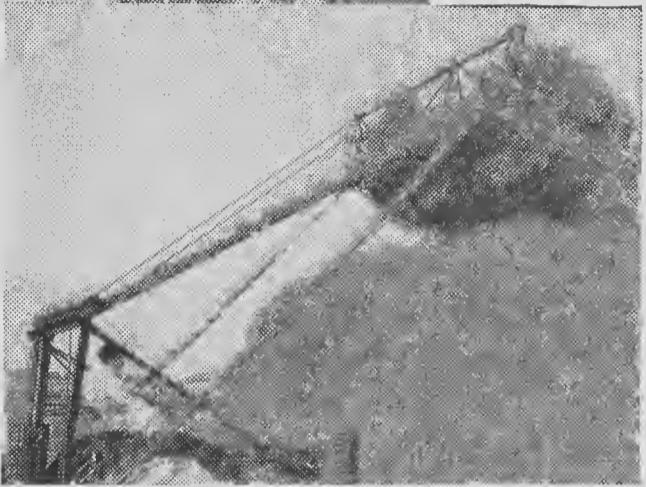
Saunders; also the rust-resistant spring wheats Coronation and Cascade for eastern Canada; the rust-resistant Vanguard and Beaver oats; Garnet and Reward wheat (started by Dr. Saunders).

Born August 31, 1881, at Merrickville, in eastern Ontario, Dr. Newman will retire to his 100-acre farm there, on which his grandfather settled a few years after the Rideau Canal was completed in 1832. Dr. Newman has operated this farm for many years, and returning to it from time to time was one of his principal pleasures.

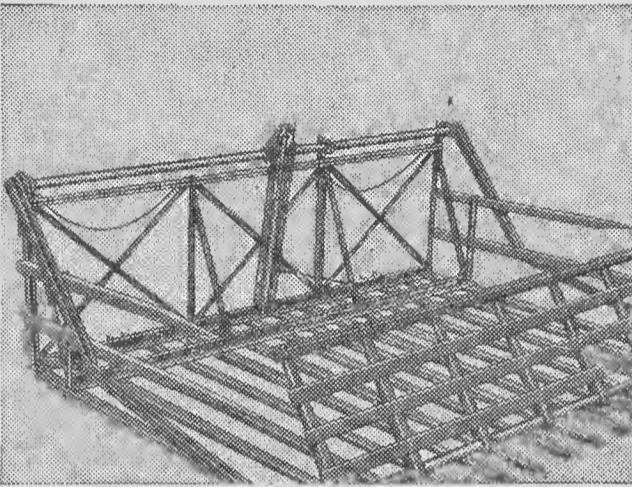
He was educated at Merrickville and was later graduated from the Ontario Agricultural College in 1903. Later he took post-graduate work at Iowa State College, at Cambridge University, England, and at Svalov, Sweden, then and now one of the greatest plant breeding centres of the world. In 1903, Dr. Newman joined the old Seed Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture and was appointed secretary of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association in 1905, one year after its organization. He remained secretary of the C.S.G.A. for 18 years and until he was appointed to succeed the late Dr. Saunders. Dr. Newman's retirement went into effect February 28, and his very many friends across Canada will wish him well.

"I add 6 feet to my stacks with my HIGH-REACH FARMHAND LOADER -plus PUSH-OFF"

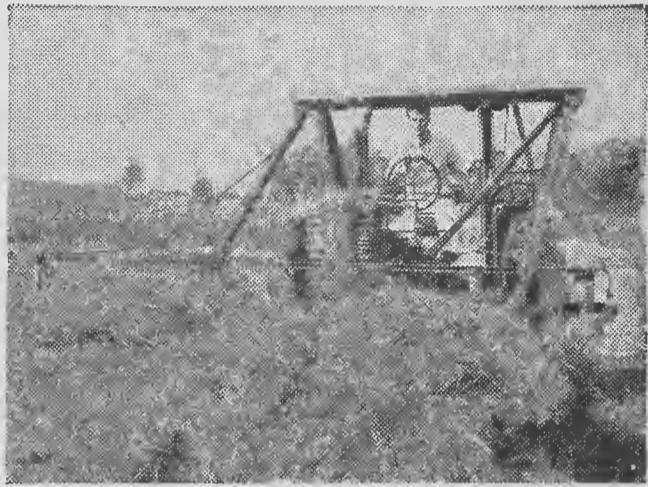
I'm getting better hay...with less spoilage, thanks to the new Push-off attachment that makes my FARMHAND Hydraulic Loader the high stacking champion of them all!



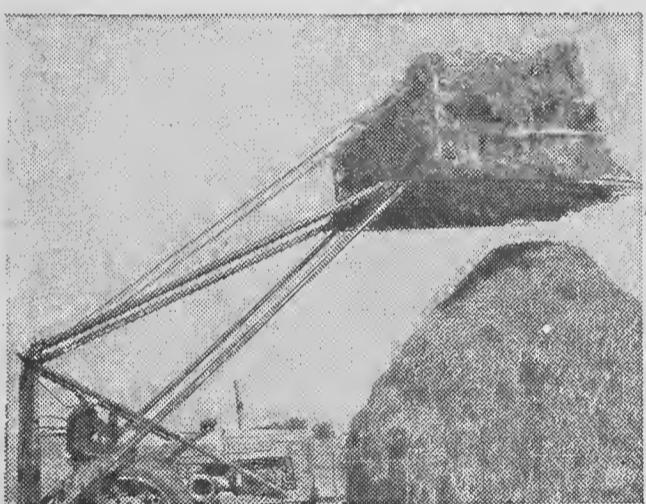
CAN YOU BEAT IT? The Push-off attachment adds 6 extra feet to the gigantic 21-foot reach of my FARMHAND Loader...gives me high, firm, rounded stacks that weather well and retain top quality. If you own a FARMHAND Loader, a Push-off on your hay basket will make your haying completely mechanized.



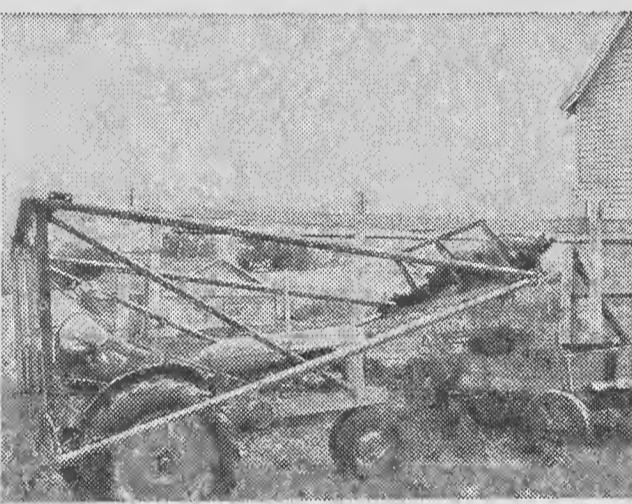
HYDRAULIC CONTROLLED! The Push-off fits on the hay basket easily...operates from its own control valve through the same hydraulic pressure system as your FARMHAND Loader. Pushes loads off ends of basket tines to center of the stack. Light aluminum construction. Folds flat...doesn't cut down basket capacity.



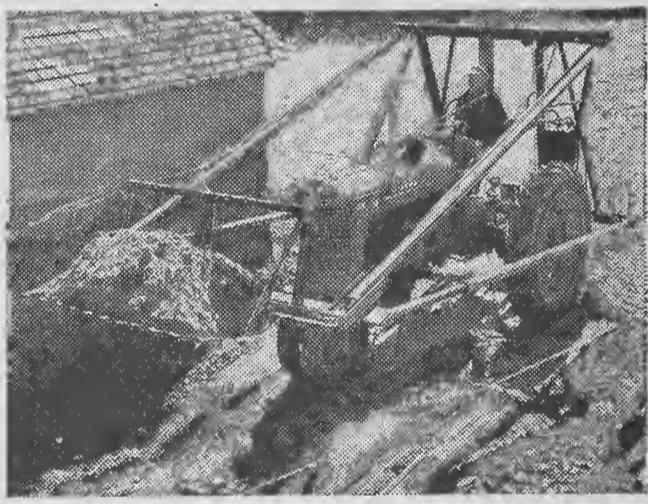
SAVES ME \$3.50 A TON in haying. My FARMHAND Loader with hay basket sweeps up windrows at speeds to 15 m.p.h....takes a half-ton at a time...clears from 15 to 20 acres a day with no waste of time or labor. If you put up 20 tons or more of hay each year, as I do, you can't afford to be without a FARMHAND Loader!



STACKS 5 TO 6 TCNS PER HOUR...with no extra hired help needed! My FARMHAND Loader with Push-off makes haying practically a one-man operation. 27-foot reach (including Push-off) puts the hay where I want it. 3,000 lb. lift speeds the job. "Wrist Action" hydraulic control deposits loads gently, evenly, where I want them.



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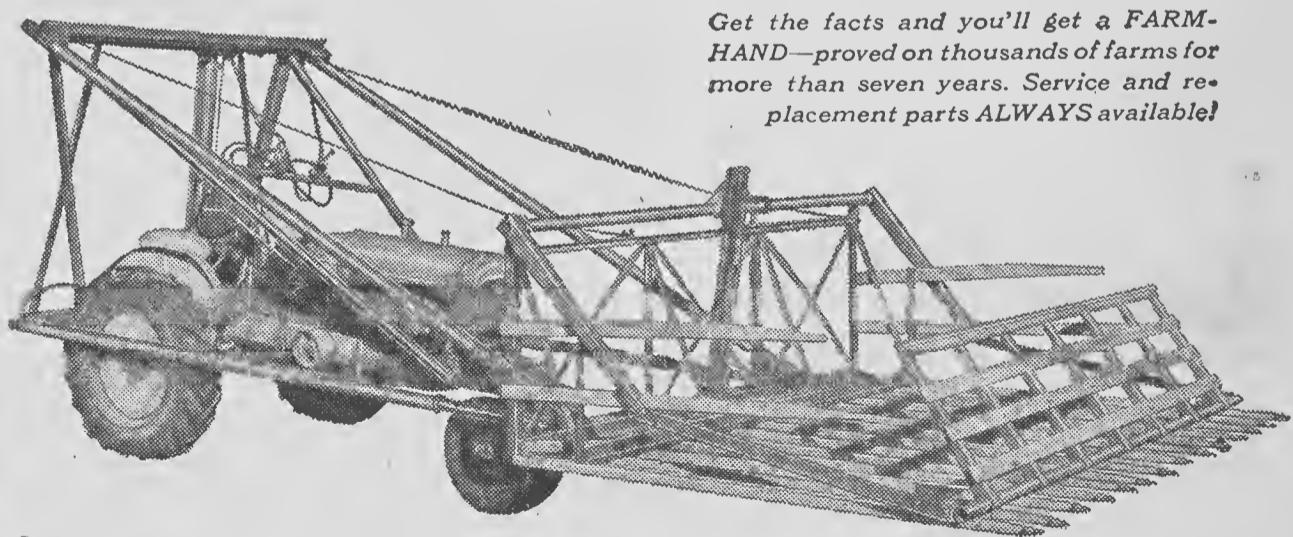
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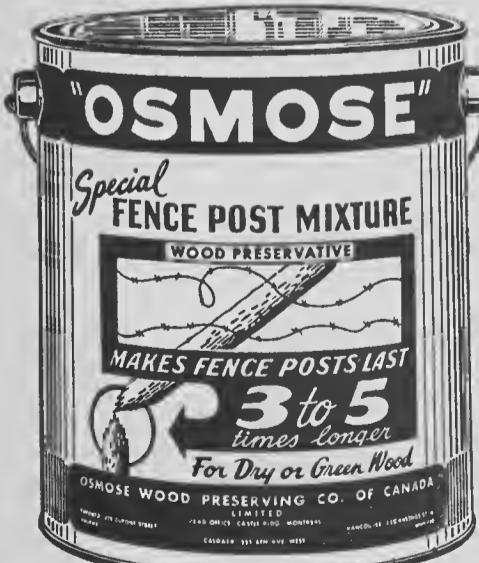
PÖL sticks, the calf doesn't rub it off. Horn buttons treated with PÖL don't ooze. PÖL is not dangerous to calf's face and eyes or cow's flanks or udder.

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LIVESTOCK



[Guide photo.
Peter Jamieson Sr., Mrs. Jamieson, with Eric and his small daughter, all of Rodono Farm, Alix, Alberta.

Dual-Purpose Cattle and Yorkshires

These are the mainstay at Rodono Farm, supplemented by thrifty Scots husbandry

RODONO FARM is rather a nice farm name, don't you think? It sounds wholesome, pleasant and unusual. I have no idea where it originated, though it probably is of Old Country vintage. In any case, I found the Peter Jamiesons of Alix, Alberta, nice people to visit. What with Peter Jamieson Sr.'s geniality, to say nothing of his rheumatism which kept me from believing that I was taking him from more important work, and Mrs. Jamieson's hospitality and their son Eric's lively and intelligent interest in the farm and its herd of Dual-Purpose Shorthorns, I came away feeling that my visit had been both pleasant and profitable. Having also met their second son, Peter Jr. (Terry, to the family), now District Agriculturist for the Alberta Department of Agriculture at Claresholm, it had been all the easier to become acquainted.

Peter Jamieson Sr. was a Scottish manufacturer. Like many another hopeful investor, he had bought land in western Canada as far back as 1911. When he brought his family out after the war, he found that he had a fairly hilly, and rather sandy farm, with about 30 acres cleared, and no buildings other than the present rather large house built in 1908. It wasn't long, however, before the combined enthusiasm and good sense of the family led him into livestock.

Sheep were an early venture, and in 1927, Mr. Jamieson bought his first three purebred Hampshire ewes, together with two ewe lambs, from the University of Alberta. In five years the flock was built up to 90 head. Not only that, he sent out grand champions to Alberta shows, and for many years Mr. Jamieson was a prominent sheep breeder in the Province. I learned at the time of my visit that coyotes had eventually forced him out of the sheep business.

The farm comprises a full section and the pride of the place now is the herd of Dual-Purpose Shorthorns. Careful records are kept, and not only is all the milk weighed and recorded, but the more promising females are put on R.O.P. test. One of them, Claribel, on 305-day test, made 9,979 pounds of milk in 305 days with 402 pounds of fat, as a two-year-old. She milked 348 days during the lactation and produced 10,608 pounds of milk and 432 pounds fat testing 4.07 per cent during the period. At the time of my visit, she was four years old and would probably produce 12,000 pounds by the end of her year. Another, older cow, Rodono Irene, had

made a record as a nine-year-old of 10,025 pounds milk and 441 pounds fat in 269 days.

The Jamiesons, however, are not particularly interested in high production. They like cows that give from 7,000 to 8,000 pounds of milk, and are at the same time good representative beef animals. This means an excess of neither beef nor milk. Claribel, incidentally, weighed 1,500 pounds at the start of her current test.

Eric told me that he tries to have cows dry at least two months before freshening. "It is much better to have them calve when they are in first class shape," he said. "It is hard to get high milk production and condition at the same time."

Four bulls from the herd have been qualified, which means that they have each sired four qualified daughters. Vanguard Robbie, the sire then in use, is expected to qualify this year. His first daughter, Rodono Doris, produced 6,195 pounds of milk in 245 days. "Most Shorthorns will milk," said Eric, "but they have to be the Shorthorn type as well, and that is where selection comes in. Sometimes one makes a mistake, especially in the selection of a bull, but generally this is because you are misled by some big record. With heifers, you can pretty well tell by looking at them and knowing their sires and dams, how they will do."

The herd is accredited, and generally numbers from 30 to 40 head. It is never up as high as 50. The Jamiesons would rather feed fewer fat animals over winter, than a large number of thin ones.

The cattle originally were grade cows. About 1927, Mr. Jamieson tried to buy some purebreds from E. K. Allonby, of Crossfield, Alberta. Mr. Allonby wouldn't sell him any, at first. He managed to buy one bull, and was told to go home and raise some good grades. He did this and started weighing and testing his milk. At the end of the year he sold five of the nine cows he had and found he was getting practically the same cream cheques from the remaining four that he had got from the nine. A neighbor, more recently, had somewhat the same experience, when he discovered that after milking five to six cows and testing some of them out of the herd for poor production, he was getting about the same cream cheque for the remaining three as from the original larger number.

"Some cows will fool you if you don't watch out," Eric told me. "They milk

well at first, but are good only for a short time. Others will milk, say, 15 pounds a day and keep it up." And some of the Jamiesons' original cows that they thought were the poorest did the best under actual weighing and recording of the milk.

Rodono cows are milked regularly, approximately 12 hours apart. They are never milked after supper, "not a half a dozen times in the last 25 years." Chores are a part of the day's work, and field work stops at 5:30.

Moreover, no concentrates are ever bought for the cattle. The cows calve in the fall, beginning in November, which gives the winter to look after them and get any records that are desired. This makes milking light in haying and harvesting time, and the cows are never milked more than twice daily. They get all the protein each individual requires, and all the alfalfa hay they can consume. Eric says he doesn't disapprove of protein and mineral supplements, but they just don't seem to be needed in the herd. Iodized salt is made up on the farm, and particular care is taken to see that it is dried for two or three days in the granary. Bran is fed for about three weeks before calving.

Rodono Farm also has purebred Yorkshires, although not as many as formerly. Last summer there were only four sows and the practice is to get only one litter per year, in April. Although small litters were quite common throughout Alberta, in the spring of 1947 Mr. Jamieson's four litters consisted of 12 pigs each. One of the difficulties with two litters per year, in Mr. Jamieson's opinion, is that the first litter must come in January and February. If the spring is late, as it was last year, the pigs are too old before they can get outside.

The Rodono Farm owners believe hogs are good if the feeder raises his own grain, though at last-summer prices, they felt it hardly paid to buy grain to feed. Forcing growth of pigs tends to increase the percentage of fat and shorten them up. By the time spring opens up, the Jamiesons' April pigs are ready to go outdoors and get accustomed to pasture. They do not seem to need reduced iron. At the time of my visit the spring pigs were on a pasture secured by sowing oats and barley on land seeded down to brome and alfalfa.

Brome is the natural grass in the district. Quite a few people are growing crested wheat grass, but the Jamiesons believe there is really nothing to touch creeping red fescue in their area. "I have taken neighbors out on Christmas day," said Eric, "and shown them the creeping red fescue green under the snow. It doesn't seed heavily in heavy land, but we have noticed that wherever creeping red fescue grows is a favorite place for the deer all winter."

It is easy to see that Peter Jamieson Sr. likes pigs. We went out to the yards and after a few calls by name, three-year-old Susie came trotting in from the pasture, a very typy three-year-old of excellent length, and gentle. Across the fence by himself was Leslie, the 6½-month Essondale boar, who obligingly lay down to be scratched and talked to. Young pigs were growthy but, not fat. Out on pasture they get plenty of exercise and acquire desirable length. As protection against the hot sun they get a coating of crankcase oil.

Light Sussex poultry are also kept on Rodono Farm. Last year was the first year that day-old chicks were purchased, and the experience was very satisfactory. Incidentally, Mr. Jamieson contends that the meat of the Light Sussex has a distinct flavor.

Mr. Jamieson tried to show me how to "witch" for water, but it wouldn't work for me. He had a piece of wire, if I remember correctly, and we stayed near the well house, where he knew there was water, but I couldn't get a

FIELD NOTES

"ARTIFICIAL FROST" GIVEN CREDIT FOR SUPERIOR POTATO CROP

Many potato growers harvested better crops last year through the use of Dowspray 66 Improved to kill potato vines (and weed top growth). Dowspray 66 Improved contains a very active toxicant which acts as an "artificial frost." It kills vines in 1 to 3 days, allowing normal ripening and permitting early digging without waiting for natural frost. Growers who used this spray to spread the harvest season reported less loss from blight in storage, the elimination of off-type growths—and easier digging, and no vines to clog diggers. Seed growers use it to control size of seed stock, by killing vines as soon as tubers reach the desired size.

NEW CHEMICAL COMPOUND POTATO SPROUT STOPPER

Each year several million bushels of table stock potatoes sprout in storage and, as a result, lose weight, food value and storage life. Now chemistry has found a growth-regulating compound that retards sprouting and saves food for the world and money for the potato farmers and processors. The material is methyl ester of 2-naphthalene acetic acid. On most varieties it retards sprouts so well that potatoes stored over the winter still approach the appearance and quality of new potatoes. Testing of this new growth-regulating compound has been extensive. Dow Sprout Inhibitor for commercial producers and handlers of potatoes is now on the market.

DDT CREDITED WITH INCREASED BEEF PRODUCTION

DDT is now being credited with adding valuable pounds in Canadian beef and milk production by the simple method of controlling flies, lice and ticks on beef and dairy cattle. Additional gains of from 30 to 60 pounds of beef per head were reported recently by stock raisers using Dow DDT formulations. Present recommendations are a minimum of 4 pounds of Dow DDT 50% Wettable Powder in 100 gallons of water. For complete fly control, livestock growers are spraying barns and sheds as well as the animals, themselves. The addition of underline spraying alone is reported to increase protection as much as a week.



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2-4 DOW Weed Killer—used Free from weeds, my grain crop according to directions—was flourished—and the total yield was thoroughly sprayed in my fields. really something to brag about!



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See your Dealer today! Ask your qualified dealer to recommend the right Dow Weed Killer—there are several for specific purposes. Ask your neighbors who have tried 2-4 DOW—ask your agricultural representative—or write to Dow.

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THE COUNTRY GUIDE

move out of it, although there was no doubt about it turning strongly in his hand.

All during my visit I was regaled with little stories about this and that and people and things. There was Advanced Registry which Mr. Jamieson said was not utilized owing to some previous difficulties and, of course, the Scottish flag which he unearthed after much difficulty in some city store, buying it for 25 cents, though it had been priced at \$1.85. On a hill near the barn stands the flag pole, visible from any part of the farm. If the flag is up, Eric knows he is wanted at the house.

During World War I, Mr. Jamieson was an officer instructor in the Gordon Highlanders. He still shows the effect in his carriage and bearing, of that early military training. Nowadays, however, he finds it difficult to get out to livestock meetings the way he used to do. —H.S.F.

duced iron, to the individual pigs once each week from the time they are three or four days old until they are about a month old, must be resorted to. A small amount of reduced iron is all that is needed in one dose—enough to half cover a ten-cent piece, and placed well back on the tongue with a flat stick or spoon handle.

Feed Pregnant Animals Well

PREGNANT breeding stock, whether cows, mares, ewes or sows, that are to farrow within the next few weeks to two months, should now be getting the most carefully arranged rations of any time in their lives. Whether milk is to be produced for market and therefore is desired in large quantities, or the young raised for market, the female must produce a good milk supply and for as long as necessary. The best time to guarantee that is before the young are born. Inadequate feeding before



Eric Jamieson tempts Claribel with a pail of chow. She possesses good Dual-Purpose Type and has plenty of milk as well.

Protect New-born Pigs from Anemia

IT has been calculated that four out of every ten pigs that die do so as a direct, or indirect, result of anemia. Anemia is a reduction in the amount of the substance which gives blood its red color. This substance is hemoglobin. Lack of hemoglobin almost always results from a lack of iron in the body.

Anemia is probably the most important killer of suckling pigs. Losses due to it are not necessarily direct, but anemic pigs lose vigor and vitality, which makes them subject to infectious troubles of various kinds, and they are very likely to get a very costly setback, if they do not eventually die, from some cause traceable to a weakening of the blood system.

Symptoms of anemia are a change in the skin color from a healthy pink to a greyish white. This is particularly noticeable in the ears. The jowls become puffy and the pig generally listless. Sometimes respiratory or digestive disorders are associated with anemia.

Pigs are born with some reserve of iron in the body, but it is not sufficient to last more than a few days. A renewed supply is not possible from the sow's milk, nor is it possible to feed the sow iron and have it transmitted through the milk. Pigs in the natural state or late spring litters allowed to get outside, do not suffer from this trouble as a rule, because they have access to soil and manage to get sufficient iron to keep them in health.

Obviously, the logical and most natural method of applying iron to pigs inside, is to have stored up in the fall a supply of sods about a foot square, so that one can be thrown into the pen each day. This method may be found inconvenient and is certainly often neglected, so that the second treatment, that of feeding ferric hydroxide, or re-

duced iron, to the individual pigs once each week from the time they are three or four days old until they are about a month old, must be resorted to. A small amount of reduced iron is all that is needed in one dose—enough to half cover a ten-cent piece, and placed well back on the tongue with a flat stick or spoon handle.

Hog Marketings Show Increase

THE Dominion Department of Agriculture has announced that hog marketings in January throughout the country were about 46 per cent above the marketings of January, 1947, and in eastern Canada constituted a record for the month of January in any year, showing a gain of nearly 49 per cent over the same month last year.

The Department believes these figures do not indicate serious liquidation of pigs, and calls attention to the fact that the proportion of sows (one in 30) was identical with that of January, 1947. There was some tendency in November and December and to a lesser degree in January, to market lighter hogs. It is believed that some of the increased marketings may be due to higher receipts in inspected and approved packing plants, following on the lower domestic consumption and the desire of producers to obtain government premiums which can be secured only through inspected plants.

In 1947, Manitoba marketed fewer hogs than in 1939, and was the only province in Canada to revert to below the pre-war level. Saskatchewan, which rose from 312,188 hogs marketed in 1939, to 1,934,112 in 1944, dropped in 1947 to 434,849. Alberta which increased from 979,898 hogs in 1939 to marketings of 2,981,940 in 1944, marketed only 1,105,222 last year.

All eastern provinces increased hog marketings last year. The percentage increases by provinces varied from 11.1 per cent in Prince Edward Island to 101.5 per cent in Nova Scotia. However, Ontario's 18.2 per cent represented 95,000 more hogs than the increase from all the other eastern provinces combined.

Of 229,487,803 pounds of bacon exported last year to the United Kingdom, 171,045,982 pounds represented A1 bacon, of which 114,902,765 pounds were of sides weighing from 55 to 65 pounds. This was almost 50 per cent of the total bacon exported.

Eastern and western Canada each produced about the same percentage of B1 hogs last year, but eastern Canada marketed 36.8 per cent Grade A hogs while western Canada only put 23.5 per cent into this grade. This was a lower percentage of Grade A hogs than in any year since 1941. Western Canada marketed higher percentages of B3, C, heavy, and extra heavy hogs than the east, while the percentage of total marketings in the west consisting of No. 1 sows was higher than in any year since 1941, amounting to 7.3 per cent, compared with 4.4 per cent for the previous year. Alberta marketed the lowest percentage of Grade A hogs last year, and it is not too satisfying to see that the poorest percentage in the eastern provinces was better than the highest percentage in the west.

Annuals Here Now

COPIES of the *Farming News Annual* and *Scottish Farmer Album* are again available for 1947. These are the famous livestock annuals which many of our readers have been securing through *The Country Guide* for years. The price is still \$1.00 each, postpaid, and orders will be filled in the order in which they are received.

The Country Guide also has a number of *Stallion Record Books* on hand which stallion owners have used satisfactorily for a number of years. The price of these is also \$1.00 each, postpaid. Address all orders to Book Department, *The Country Guide*, 290 Vaughan Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba.



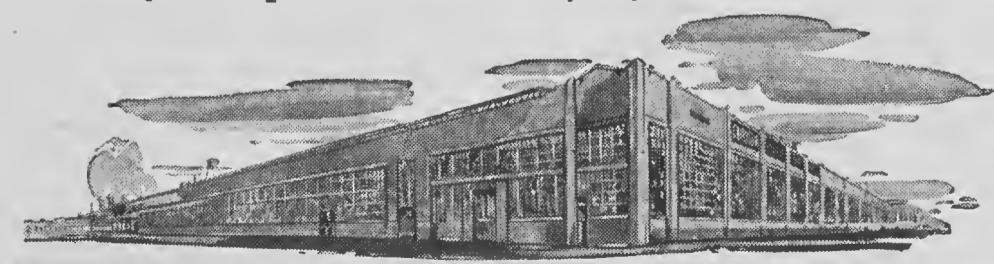
THE BIG MOMENT—the body drop! The shining, neatly-trimmed Plymouth body is about to be lowered and securely fastened to its sturdy chassis with rubber-cushioned mountings. This is one of the most spectacular sights in the automobile plant of the Chrysler Corporation of Canada, Limited, at Windsor.

Earlier, on the production line, the sturdy chassis has been fitted with Plymouth value features, such as—Front-end Sway Eliminator—Amola Steel Springs—famous Plymouth Safety-Rim Wheels and Super Cushion tires for blowout protection and Plymouth's big, 95 horsepower, floating-power engine. When the handsome Plymouth comes off the assembly line, lubricants are added and it is ready for a final thorough check and road test. After being put through its paces by expert Chrysler inspectors, the necessary adjustments are made and



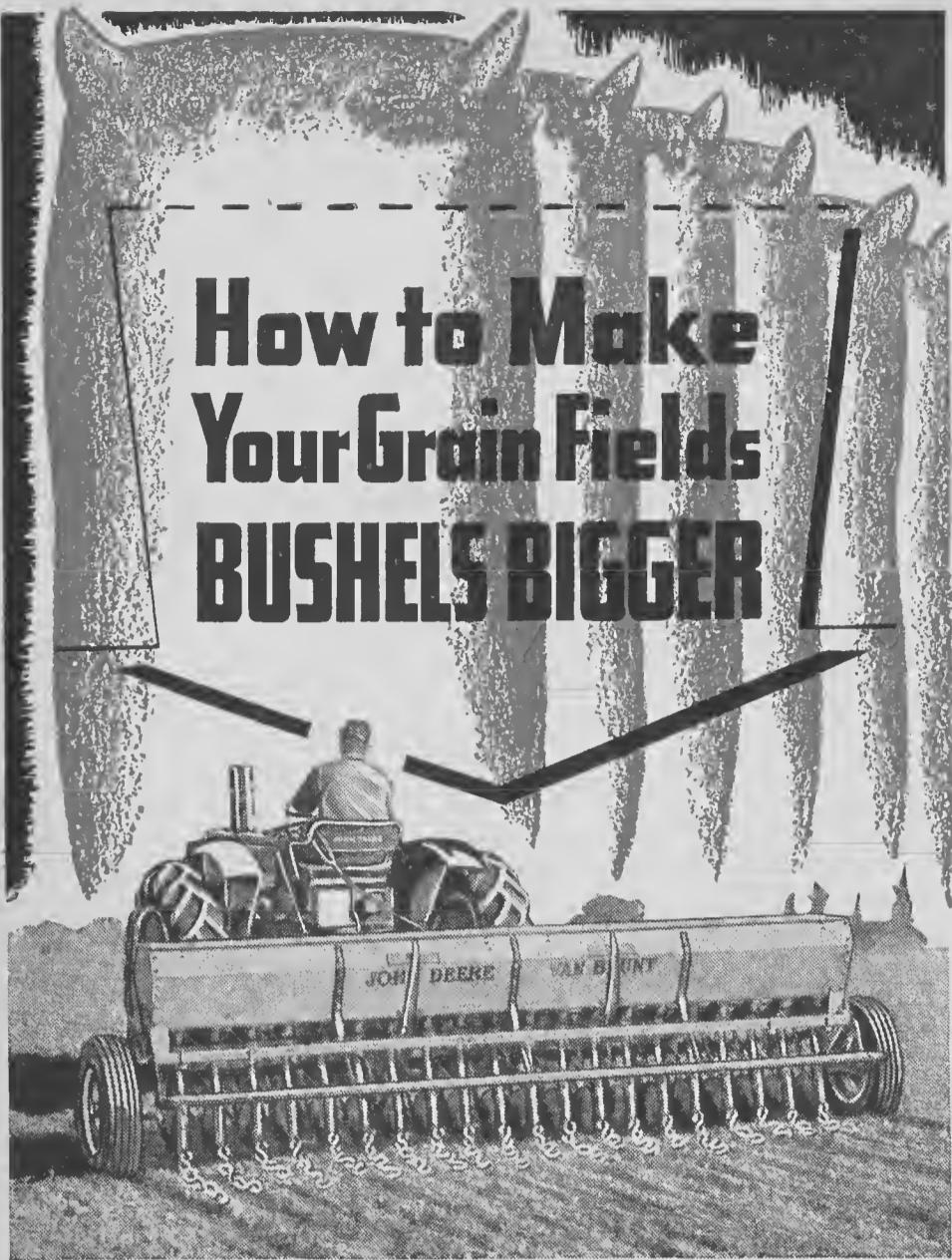
another fine Canadian-built Plymouth rolls out of the busy plant ready to give reliable performance, greater safety and increased economy to its new Canadian owner.

◀ The Chrysler Corporation's passenger car plant at Windsor, Canada. This huge plant contains over 13 acres of floor area, where 2,265 skilled Canadian craftsmen, modern machines and equipment produce fine Canadian automobiles.



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FIELD



How to Make Your Grain Fields Bushels Bigger

JOHN DEERE

JOHN DEERE V. B. CO.

Help yourself to bigger yields—extra dollars—from your grain fields this year. Put in your crops with a dependable John Deere-Van Brunt Grain Drill that promotes quick germination, rapid growth, full, even stands, and bigger yields by placing uniform quantities of seed at even depth in the soil.

Get Better Stands . . . Bigger Yields

There are two big reasons why John Deere-Van Brunt Grain Drills promote better stands and bigger yields. First, the adjustable-gate fluted force-feeds, which plant many different crops in almost any desired quantity per acre, operate with unfailing accuracy.

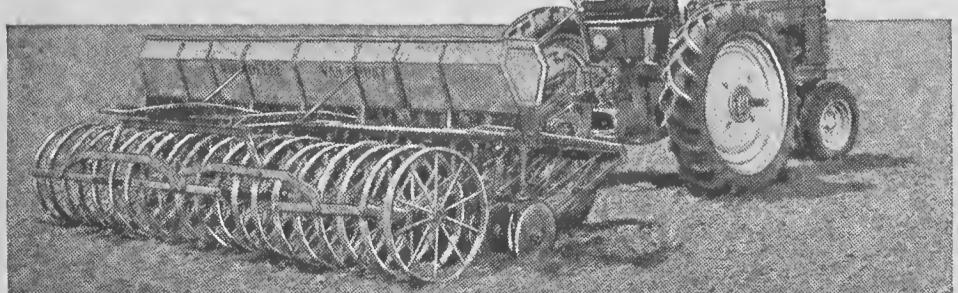
Second, spring pressure on the furrow openers always remains uniform because it is applied with jackknife effect. This exclusive feature assures even depth of planting—promotes better stands and more uniform ripening of the crop.

There's a Drill to Suit Your Needs

Whether you choose a Model "B" Low-Wheel Grain Drill, or a Model "LL" Press Grain Drill, you are sure of accurate, dependable planting. These drills are famous for their ease of operation and long life. They can be equipped with your choice of furrow openers. Grass seed attachment and other optional equipment can be supplied.

See your John Deere dealer for full information.

The Model "B" Low-Wheel Drill, which plants accurately at speeds up to 6 M.P.H., is shown above. The Model "LL" Drill is pictured below.



JOHN DEERE PLOW COMPANY, LTD.
Winnipeg Regina Calgary Welland



C. R. Jones, Netherhill, Sask., stands in a field of young trees, on level, treeless land touching the home half-section. For contrast see second picture with this story.

Tree-Planting Pays On This Farm

He gets the effect of 50-acre protected fields with 100-acre fields for power equipment to work in

IT'S a long way from Pembroke Castle in Monmouthshire, England, to the flat plains southwest of Netherhill, Saskatchewan. C. R. Jones was born in the Castle and now farms one mile west and six miles south of Netherhill. This doesn't mean, he told me, that he was born in the purple, or with a silver spoon in his mouth, but merely that the old castle, in which it is said that Oliver Cromwell once lived, stood on the border of Herefordshire as late as 1932, complete with courtyard, stone wall, turrets, dungeon and moat. It had become, in fact, a farm house, serving the 300-acre farm which Mr. Jones' father operated, and on which he raised principally wheat, Shire horses and race horses. It was being rebuilt when Mr. Jones went back home in 1932, but he showed me a picture of it as it had been, and one could well believe that it had stood the storms and tests of time since the stirring days of England's history when Cromwell and his Puritans cut off the head of Charles I.

At Netherhill in 1913, conditions were quite different from those along the southern part of the boundary between England and Wales. Not being familiar with Canadian farming methods, Mr. Jones thought he could probably make more money by breaking land for those more experienced, and he broke a lot of it between Netherhill and Kindersley. He acquired two big old Rumley tractors, and one year one of his outfits did between \$13,000 and \$14,000 worth of work in nine months. Whatever money he made, he put into land, but during these early years he says he wasn't very successful as a farmer. He did the other fellow's work at the right time and his own work whenever he could get at it.

This appears to have continued for quite a long time, as it wasn't until sometime in the '30's that he settled down to good farming, and stopped doing outside work for others. Now that prices are good, he thinks farming is easy, but says he worked too long for other people. One thing that amazed him during the '30's was that when the government wasn't getting much in the way of taxes, they continued to pay out "heaps of money to keep farmers."

Although he farms 12 quarters, Mr. Jones says he doesn't need nearly that much land to make a living. He could make a good living on a half-section, and it was easy to see that he kept

thinking of that 300-acre English farm from which, incidentally, a Shire stallion had been sold as a colt for around \$9,000, which was the highest price ever paid in England for a Shire until 1911.

Ambitious, and willing to work hard, he knew that he could make a go of farming in Canada. His land was good, though not in as good shape as now; and in 1937, the driest year ever, he was able to sell a carload of wheat and keep 650 bushels for seed, in addition to growing enough oat sheaves for feed—and this on stubble.

MR. JONES now grows registered seed, and in 1947 had close to 900 acres of registered seed crops. These consisted of second generation Apex wheat, in addition to Royal flax and Valour oats. He has never exhibited seed at Chicago, but has shown at Saskatoon, and has won a number of prizes, although he has never spent much time in fixing up his samples. He did wish he had sent seed to Chicago from one or two crops, because for two years in succession his wheat weighed 68½ pounds per bushel straight from the combine.

To keep his land as free as possible from weeds, he invariably follows the combine with the tractor, on all land to be summerfallowed the following year. This practice, he believes, gets the seeds off the surface and into the ground so they get a start early in the spring and can be killed with subsequent cultivations.

He began using large equipment about 1930, starting with a small combine. In 1938 he used a binder for the last time, and in 1939 he began using the combine for harvesting altogether. The tractor is equipped with a cab built by his nephew; and an interesting sidelight on the extent to which farm boys are trained in the use of machinery at an early age, is the fact that a boy 10 years old has handled the tractor for combining.

Large equipment, of course, means a good farm shop, and winter repair of machinery. One by one they are looked over and made ready for early seeding in the spring. The shop is not elaborate, but it is fairly well equipped, with good bench tools, a forge, power drill, emery wheel and other similar equipment. A 10-foot door allows implements to be taken inside during the winter, and an

850-watt, 32-volt Delco plant lights the shop at night, if necessary, in addition to lighting the house and operating an electric iron and washer. A gas engine operates a pump, as well as the power drill and emery wheel, and a chain hoist in the shop is one of the most useful pieces of equipment.

ONE of the most striking things about the Jones farm is the eight miles of trees to be found on the home half-section. The farmstead itself is well sheltered, and includes 12 acres surrounded by trees with four garden areas, a five-acre permanent pasture, and an unusually large dugout 260x44x10.

The dugout was installed before P.F.R.A. assistance was available, but it has been enlarged since. Large as it is, it fills sometimes to overflowing in the spring though it drains only a small area. Mr. Jones says if he could only get it empty he would like to deepen it by four feet, and would then have a two-year water supply.

This snow water in the dugout, incidentally, is used for drinking and household use. It is first filtered through about 15 feet of sand, however. A trench was dug about half way along the side of the dugout nearest the house, and at the end of the trench a pump is installed, which, at the time of my visit, was being operated by the engine of a garden tractor. The trench is filled with sand, which extends out to the centre of the dugout. The water thus filtered has been analyzed at Regina and pronounced very satisfactory for human use. Before this the well water available on the farm was declared too highly mineralized for human consumption. It should be added that water from the dugout is also used to some extent for irrigating the garden.

The Jones field shelterbelts consist mostly of single rows of tall growing trees such as ash and poplar alternately, with three caraganas between each pair of tall trees. By this means the snow is held and ground drift is prevented. He has the home half-section divided into three approximately equal fields. A line of trees runs around the entire half section, and between each two fields. Two or three years ago, the interesting discovery was made that still more trees were needed. It happened this way: A 100-acre field of flax that averaged nine bushels per acre was being harvested. When half the field had been combined, Mr. Jones calculated the yield on the 50 acres, and found it was going 12 bushels per acre. When he had finished the field, he found that the centre half, away from the trees, only gave him six bushels per acre.

How to get more trees and still be

able to use his large equipment efficiently was the question. Eventually, he decided to put another shelterbelt lengthwise on each 100-acre field, but only in the centre half of the length. This left one-quarter of the length of the field free of trees at either end, so that with his large equipment he could keep going around and around the field without any interference from the centre line of trees. As fast as possible, he has been completing these final plantings in each 100-acre field and this spring the third and last field will get its centre row of trees, and will complete a total of eight miles of trees on the half section.

This is in flat, treeless country. I stood on a stone pile at the lower corner of the half section, and couldn't see a tree of any kind between me and the nearest elevator several miles away. What a contrast! Sometimes we hear people suggest that the government ought to operate a number of demonstration farms so that farmers in a community could copy the methods used after seeing them applied in a practical way. One wonders what good this would do, when such a very small percentage of farmers seem to be able to apply the ideas put into practice by successful independent farmers who have been demonstrating in the community regularly year after year.—H.S.F.

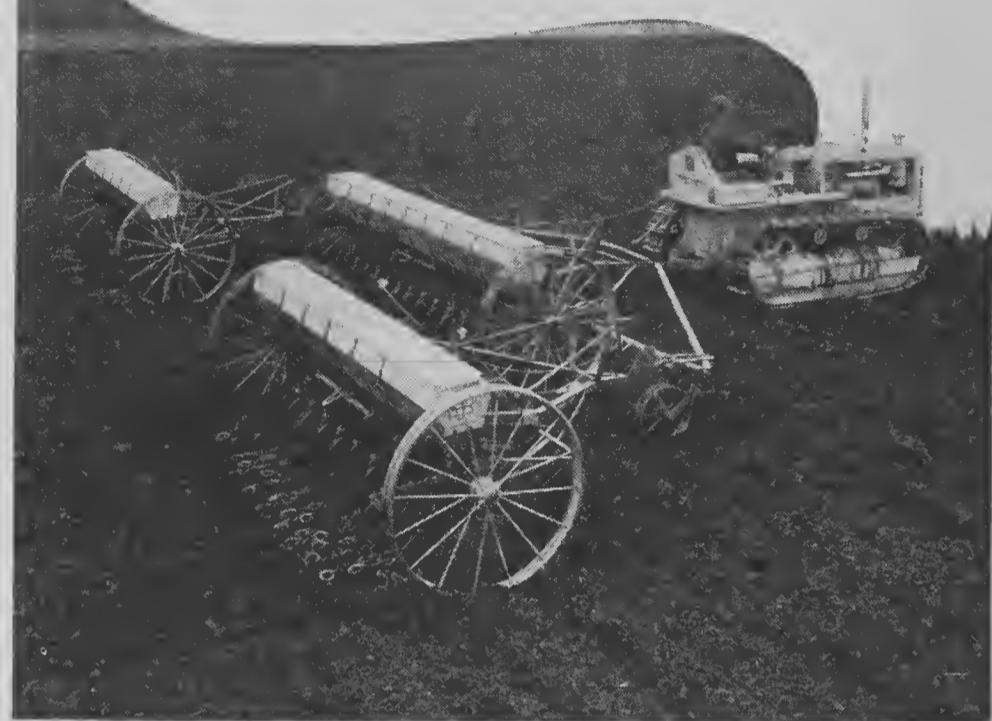
Barnyard Manure Superior

JUDGING by results secured on sandy and partly eroded soil at the Dominion Reclamation Station, Melita, Manitoba, barnyard manure is superior to commercial fertilizer for increasing yields of wheat on light-textured and eroded soils. Applying rotted manure during the fallow year at 10 tons per acre resulted in 23.5 bushels per acre after fallow, over an 11-year period, and 17.4 bushels of second crop wheat per acre. Ammonium phosphate, 11-48-0, at 40 pounds per acre, applied to both first and second crop wheat per acre, resulted in yields of 22.1 bushels per acre for summerfallow wheat and 15.4 bushels per acre for second crop. Ammonium phosphate 16-20-0 at 100 pounds per acre gave 20 bushels of summerfallow wheat and 16.8 bushels of second crop wheat. When triple super-phosphate was used, the corresponding yields were 21.2 and 14.1 bushels per acre respectively. Land not fertilized averaged 18.3 bushels after fallowing and 13.2 bushels on second crop.

Crops in the Right Order

COMPARISON for a period of 30 years of two systems of crop sequence, or rotation at the Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon, has yielded a valuable lesson.

*Speeding THE SEEDING
WITH A BONUS OF "PULL!"*



• Behind the 6-plow "Caterpillar" Diesel D4 Tractor is a 36-foot hitch of grain drills. Behind the owner are 120 acres of wheat drilled in a 10-hour day. There's a big bonus of drawbar pull to take extra-wide hitches or extra tools in tandem, to speed preparation and seeding with this tractor.

Part of the answer is: the broad tracks stay on top of the seedbed. The D4's tracks, for example, provide 11 square feet of plank-like support. This tractor puts less pressure per square inch on the soil than a man's foot exerts! And each track keeps 10 wide grousers in soil-gripping position.

That adds-up to positive traction without wasteful slippage, and without harmful soil packing. Traction harnesses the heavy-duty engine's power to give you the drawbar pulling bonus—to gain important yield-boosting days when time counts.

Here's power to beat time and meet emergency, teamed with modern Diesel economy—backed by "Caterpillar's" exclusive 40 years of track-type tractor experience! Prairie Province farmers whose "Caterpillar" Diesel Tractors already have "bought themselves" in fuel dollars saved, know what that means!

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There are nearly eight miles of trees on C. R. Jones' home half-section. All around is bald, flat, treeless prairie.

[Guide photo.]

The Superior Weed-Killer



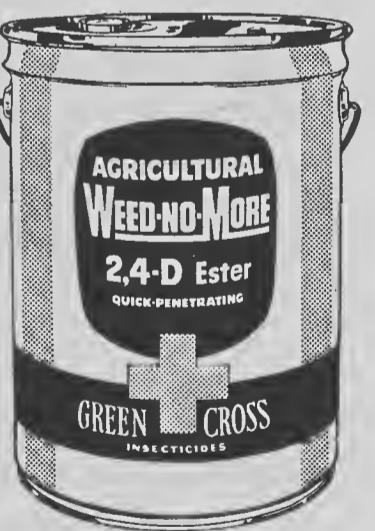
Green Cross* AGRICULTURAL WEED-NO-MORE

(The Quick-Penetrating BUTYL ESTER of 2,4-D)

THIS year, don't gamble. Rout the weeds in your grain or flax with sure-killing Green Cross Agricultural Weed-No-More. Experience on 250,000 acres in the Prairie Provinces last year, proved that Weed-No-More kills more weeds more effectively than any other weed-killing formulation. That's performance backed by fact . . . performance you can rely on right down to the last drop.

Plan to spray early for best results. Weed-No-More, applied at the proper time and at strengths indicated on label, will completely eliminate most weeds in your fields without harming your crops. Every drop goes to work the moment it hits, and penetration is so fast that rainfall minutes later cannot spoil its effectiveness.

Place your Agricultural Weed-No-More orders now, to be sure you get adequate supplies.



During all these years, a four-year rotation of fallow, wheat, wheat and oats has been practiced in one field. In recent years this field has been yielding threshed grain which contained from eight to 15 per cent of wild oats by weight. It is reported that the second crop of wheat has been particularly dirty. Another rotation has been followed for the same length of time in an adjoining field. Here the rotation of crops has been fallow, wheat, hay, hay, wheat and oats, a six-year rotation with two years of hay between the two wheat crops. In this field, the dockage for wild oats in the grain crop in recent years has averaged only one-tenth of one per cent.

All weeds that grow readily with grain flourish in land sown to grain. But also, according to Assistant Superintendent D. A. Brown, sawfly is encouraged by wheat following wheat. The same is true of root rot which is definitely propagated by repeated crops of the same kinds of grain.

Likewise, it is very difficult in dry years to prepare a satisfactory seed bed by surface tilling only, if the land is covered with a heavy mulch of combine thresher straw and stubble.

Brandon concludes that for all annual crops, the summerfallowing either of stubble or sod land is the best preparation. If annuals must follow each other it is advisable to avoid using the same class of crop two years in succession.

Fencings That Last

THE difference between economical and expensive fencing is often the difference between treating fence posts for long wear, and not treating them at all. Probably hundreds of thousands of poplar posts have been used in the prairie provinces without any treatment, and ought to be renewed after they have been in the ground, perhaps, two or three years. On the other hand, if poplar posts are properly treated with a bluestone solution, they may last as long as 40 years. For a split cedar post costing about 35 cents last fall, a coal tar treatment, which would cost an additional five cents, would double or treble its life and would, therefore, be a splendid investment.

Swift Current authorities state that the hot coal tar treatment has proved satisfactory for most dry posts, whereas the bluestone treatment gives good results for poplar and willow posts. Dry cedar posts can also be given reasonably long life if given prolonged soaking in a bluestone solution.

Contrary to some opinion, charring a post does not seem to add more years to its usefulness than if it were left untreated. Split cedar posts, given similar conditions, will outlast a round cedar post.

Reducing Soil Loss from Water Erosion

EVERYONE knows that water runs downhill. Everyone knows, too, that if it runs downhill over bare ground it becomes muddy from the soil that it washes loose and carries with it. This is water erosion and, in the aggregate, water running downhill over bare ground is responsible for moving millions of tons of soil every year.

Unless one sees a field that has been badly gullied during one heavy rain-storm, it is sometimes hard to imagine that the loss of soil is as severe as it is. Here are some figures as a result of careful tests made at the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa:

In one four-month summer period, when 15 inches of rain fell, 31 tons of soil per acre were washed from the surface of a corn field planted and cultivated up and down a 10 per cent slope. One day in the following year, 45 tons of soil per acre were washed from the same field in one hour when three inches of rain fell. In a summerfallow field adjoining it the run-off at the

same time was 72.5 tons of soil per acre.

During two successive growing seasons when a total of 34.81 inches of rain fell, the total soil run-off on a summerfallow plot cultivated up and down the slope unmanured, amounted to 132 tons per acre. Where corn had been planted and was cultivated up and down the slope, the loss was 126 tons per acre. Making the soil more porous by adding manure to a summerfallow field reduced the loss to 114 tons during the same period, while the manuring of a corn field reduced the loss still further to 100 tons per acre. When the corn was planted on the contour, the run-off was so far reduced as to bring the soil loss down to 34 tons per acre, and when soil was covered by a cover crop of alfalfa, loss of soil during the same time was only one-quarter of a ton.

These figures indicate that it is possible to reduce the loss of topsoil from water erosion by careful farm practice. The seeding of gullies to grass or clovers and the avoidance of up-and-down cultivation of fields are the two principal measures to be taken. Contouring has not been practiced much as yet on the prairies, but there are undoubtedly many fields now cultivated which would greatly benefit from contouring owing to the fact that the land slopes so much. The biggest step for the control of water erosion is taken, however, when the extent of the loss is realized.

Farm Labor Earnings and Wages

WITH regard to the Field article on page 15, January issue: "Average farm 543 acres, average net income in terms of labor earnings \$1,109 per farm." I would like to know what they would consider I could pay a man, including board, for a year according to this survey. That one paragraph could be the basis of a future Field topic of interest to all farmers.

My farm is 640 acres, 450 broken; 70 cattle including 10 milk cows. I sell 100 pigs a year and have 100 hens. Suppose they allowed interest on capital at, say, 640 acres at \$20 equals \$12,800, stock \$5,000, machinery \$5,000, and also added depreciation according to income tax allowance.

Possibly you consider it foolish to expect interest from capital invested in farm property. I know plenty of farmers who do not expect interest on their investment. But they certainly pay interest till it is paid for. I like farming but consider it a depressed occupation with regard to convenience, 365 days on the job. Also, the amount of capital in proportion to income received from it, and the risk. We not only have the high cost of living common to everybody, but also high machinery and operating costs. I believe every farmer would be broke if he worked an eight-hour day, a six-day week, and his wife did not help.

Would like to know according to this survey what a hired man is worth, because I cannot earn as much wages for myself on longer hours, as I have to pay for help.—G. W. Fee, Viking, Alberta.

(NOTE: Labor earnings are what is left after all expenses are provided for, including interest, depreciation, taxes and operating costs. They include income in kind such as meat, milk, eggs, and garden vegetables and fruit.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics gives the average wages of male farm help in Alberta at January 15, 1948, as \$68.83 with board, per month, and \$101.00 without board. Daily wages average \$3.41 with board and \$4.53 without board. Wages are lower in Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan, higher in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, and British Columbia. Alberta wages, with board a year ago were \$63.31 per month, and two years ago, \$60.25.—Ed.)

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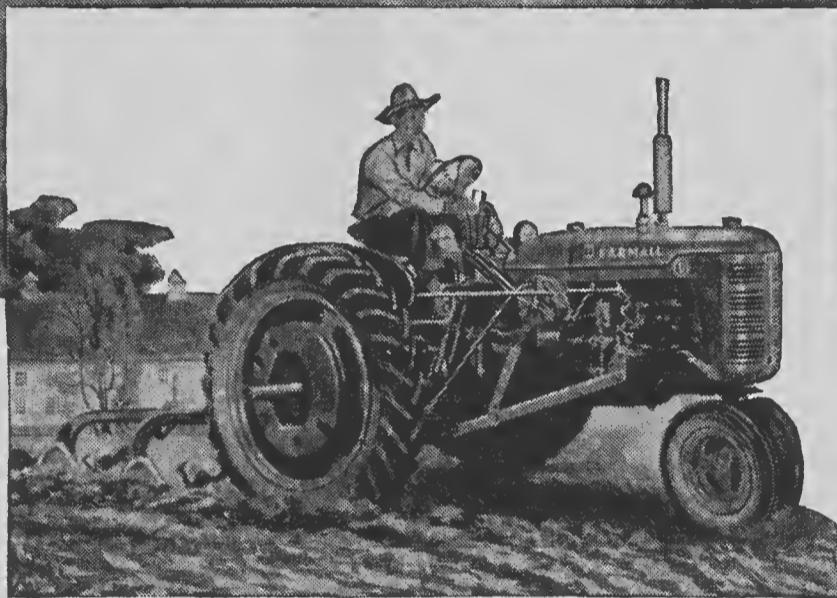
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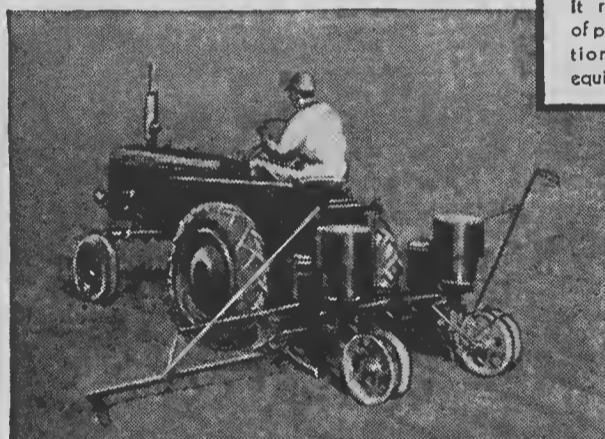


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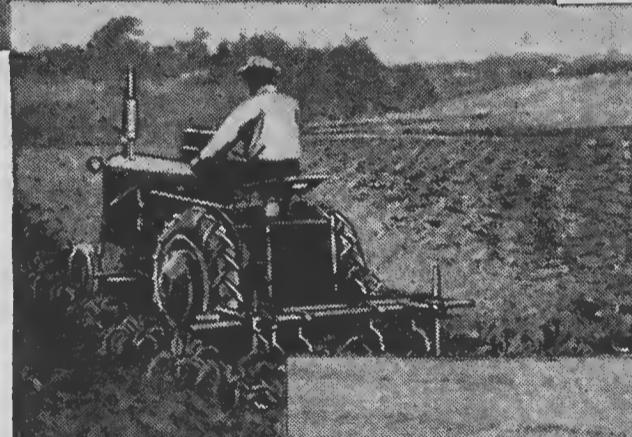


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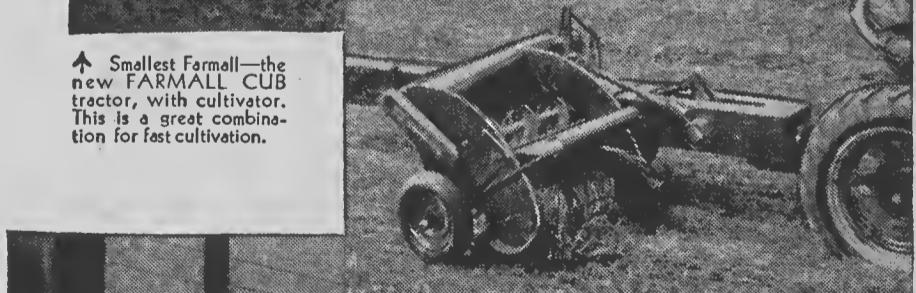
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Under the Peace Tower

The King administration lays itself open to the charge of becoming a tell-nothing government

By AUSTIN F. CROSS

THE government is beginning to feel its oats. This means an administration where you have a touch of bureaucracy, a tincture of Divine Right, a good mixture of Star Chamber Methods, and more than a little of The Public Be Damned.

Most governments bring about their own end, and like Samson in his blindness, pull down about their ears their own administrative edifice. You remember, too, what happened to Samson. By and large this government has been a good government, and has administered wisely and well. But they have got to a point now, in many particulars, where it would seem they think they can do no wrong. Or hardly any, anyway. We now come to the Beginning of the End Department.

The Beginning of the End manifests itself in a cockiness that the government mistakes for competence, in a benevolent attitude toward the public which implies: We'll tell you what we think you ought to know.

Let's go down the line and examine the cases, just as a doctor goes down the ward in a hospital to look at the sickness there. For, make no mistake about it, there is sickness in this government just as there is in a hospital ward. What's more, some of the patients can be cured, just as some of the government's faults can be cured. But there will be casualties too.

BUSINESS men come away talking to themselves, after a session with some of the pipsqueak functionaries in Wartime Prices and Trade Board. One business man from western Ontario exclaimed to said official: "This will put me out of business."

"We expect that," said the government official blandly. "There will be many people out of business by our policy."

This from a civil servant whose salary is paid by you and me, and whose fat pension is sure at 65.

Then there is this matter of Abbott Austerity at the border. Those who have gone through the customs recently at American points know what a humiliation it is. Canadians are searched on Canadian soil before they leave the country, and the Third Degree is not always pleasant. This writer has seen them probing into old ladies' purses, and the female customs attendant stands as a constant threat to every woman, that she is liable to be stripped to the skin and searched. The customs people are looking basically for two things: (a) machinery or objects which you might export and sell for American funds; (b) or American currency for which you have no Form H. Now the customs men tell me that the real money smugglers don't expose themselves to search. The fellows who smuggle the big money out do it in neatly folded hundred or thousand dollar bills. More often they send it back with Americans, who are more or less immune.

"The only people we catch," confided a customs officer to Peace Tower the other day, "are a few honest Canadians who have three bucks they forgot about,

and didn't declare. We're not catching anybody big."

In any event, it is a humiliation to Canadians. But here is the angle: Hon. Douglas Abbott, Minister of Finance, has said we are going behind with the States about \$100,000,000 a month. Well, you can't balance that adverse trade by frisking a lot of decent Canadians. The point is the government no longer cares about what its own Canadians think. They make an unwilling Gestapo of their embarrassed customs and immigration personnel, and don't give a hoot about the wishes or feelings of their fellow Canadians. That's another chapter in the Beginning of the End.

Not so long ago, a delegation of newspapermen called on Mr. Abbott, in his East Block office. A minor functionary without consulting the Minister, decided he was "too busy to be bothered" with the press. Well, that's too bad. You can be sure that the press did not want to see Abbott because they loved him. They had a job to do. A vigilant press represents the public. Obviously, a farmer in Manyberries or Morden can't stop plowing and rush all the way down to Ottawa to see what Abbott is doing. Neither can a fellow in Montreal or Vancouver. So the press, as representing the public, go to see him. When minor officials decide for the Minister that he is too busy to see the press, and inform the public what's going on, that's bureaucracy at its worst.

There are worse cases than that. There is the Civil Service Commission agent who criticized the press for disturbing him in his home, and yet his job was to give out news. The government functions night and day, and so do newspapers. A civil service day is from nine till five, and with an hour and a half for lunch. As you can see, it is a slave-driving routine. Well, this poor, tired press officer would not discuss government business over the phone in the evening at home, and in daytime was "too busy" to see the newspapers. Here again is a sad chapter. You get press officers who become prima donnas, and whose main job is not to get news to the press, but to glorify the Minister.

BUT to put the blame where it belongs, it should be lodged squarely on the shoulders of Prime Minister Mackenzie King. For all his disarming style, and his graciousness toward the press when he does see them, he has pretty well got by this last quarter century by telling them nothing. Then when he meets the newspapermen, he disarms them by telling them how sorry he is that it has been so long since he saw them last. King has always felt that the least said, the easiest mended, and he has operated behind a cloak of secrecy these many years. He is also as sore as a boil when the press pries a secret out of his office before he gives it out.

It is he who is responsible for the hush-hush policy which has pervaded not only in his own office, but any

(Turn to page 55)

PLANNED IMPROVEMENT PAYS OFF

Continued from page 17

the old Municipal District of Nelson, established as a purebred sire area on November 15, 1946. This comprised nine townships, and at least during the first eight months of operation there had been no prosecutions.

Enforcement of the area regulations is in the hands of the agricultural supervisor of the Municipal District Service Board. The same is true of weed control and other regulations which the municipal district may see fit to enact for the good of the area. In all these matters, co-operation between the agricultural supervisor of the Service Board and the district agriculturist of the provincial Department of Agriculture is close, and friendly. It was interesting to learn that the bull clubs and the purebred sire area policies seem to work together. One group in the municipality always seemed difficult to persuade to form a bull club. The farmers in this area held back until eventually they were surrounded by bull clubs and the purebred sire area was voted in. This particular district was therefore isolated and subsequently fell in line with the livestock improvement policy.

NEXT in importance in the over-all program was the improvement of livestock feeding in the Athabasca district. This, of course, is not an easy part of the program to achieve. Since it is expected that it will take 15 or 20 years to really complete the entire program, it is probable that feeding efficiency will develop along with, but more slowly than, most other parts of the program.

Similarly it is hoped that the district will eventually become a T.B.-free area. This, however, will be largely dependent on the availability of veterinary services. At the present time the Dominion Division of Animal Pathology finds it impossible to secure sufficient trained veterinarians to keep up with the work which it already has in sight. The Alberta government is now willing to pay up to \$2,000 as a grant to municipal service boards for the employment of municipal veterinarians. The latter, if and when appointed in any area, would work on salary, but would make a charge to the farmer who was assisted, and the money received would go to the service board. Under the provincial policy, a maximum salary for veterinarians assisted would operate.

Ultimately, too, the plan envisages an annual livestock fair for the Athabasca district. This is not possible at the present time, because there is not a sufficient concentration of good market cattle as yet. Nevertheless, a number of calf clubs are being organized, and the improvement that has taken place in cattle quality from the Athabasca district is illustrated by the fact that in 1946, the Athabasca club secured an average of 21.7 cents per pound at the Edmonton show, which was the highest average price at the show, aside from the Grand Champion, which sold for 50 cents per pound.

Other evidence of the fact that improvement is paying off, was the experience of Joe Eherer, who in 1946 picked out six calves to make five to be shown at the Livestock Show in Edmonton. All six were fed the same, but the spare calf went to the stockyards and the other five to the show. At the stockyards the one brought 13 cents a pound and at the show the other five averaged 25½ cents per pound.

I WAS able to visit a number of farms in the Athabasca area, one of them being that of E. S. Parsons, of Boyle. Mr. Parsons, who is a burly, energetic, jovial farmer of Swedish nationality, came to Canada in 1913 and homesteaded in 1914 in the district. He and his two sons, each of whom is farming, operate two full sections, more or less as a unit, one quarter not being cultivated. Mr. Parsons has a herd of about 50 head of Shorthorns, including six purebreds and two purebred bulls. He keeps from five to seven sows and markets about 150 pigs per year; has a few Hampshire sheep as an experiment; is much interested in his garden and orchard; and seeded about 20 acres to alfalfa last year. He has grown up to 125 bushels of Ajax oats on peat soil and plans to establish a six-year rotation on about 60 acres of land in each of the two sections he operates.

This farm was more or less typical of a number we visited, each with a herd of Shorthorn cattle, each one placing some emphasis on alfalfa or other leguminous forage crops, and each one being developed along diversified lines but based on rough land grass and cultivated forage crops.

Now in the sixth year of the district livestock improvement program, it would seem that the farmers of Athabasca stand to benefit substantially from a continuation and intensification of it. Co-operation from municipal, provincial and Dominion governments is paying off in a district which, at the beginning of the program was backward as a farming area.



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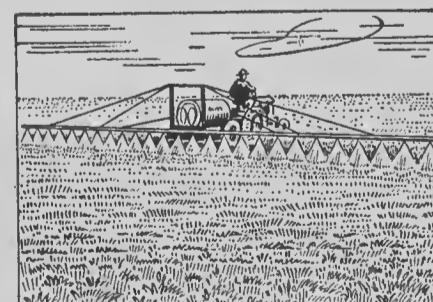
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Prairie Horticulturists Meet at Saskatoon

Annual meeting of the Western Canadian Society of Horticulture reviews newer knowledge of fruits, vegetables and ornamentals

By E. T. ANDERSEN

ON March 2nd and 3rd, members of the Western Canadian Society of Horticulture met together in Saskatoon for the fourth time since their organizational meeting held in November, 1943. In attendance were most of the horticultural research and extension workers of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and northern British Columbia. Present also were many men representing commercial plant nurseries located in the prairie region. In all, about 40 persons took part.

In addition, M. B. Davis, dominion horticulturist, and N. M. Parks, potato specialist from the C.E.F., Ottawa, gave much support and encouragement by their active participation in the program.

This body of prairie horticulturists organized in 1943 to promote greater co-operation and co-ordination in horticultural research and extension, has a very creditable record of achievement and has amply proved the value of its existence.

Dr. C. F. Patterson, president of the Society for the past two years, reviewed past accomplishments and stressed the need for even greater co-operation among workers in the future, in order that more effective progress might be made. Credit for the excellent program arrangement is largely due to his untiring efforts on behalf of the Society.

Progress reports presented by the various standing committees revealed achievements in many ways. This brief account permits mention of only a few.

The fruit and vegetable processing laboratory under the direction of Mr. A. L. Shewfelt, is now in its second year of operation at the Morden Experimental Station. The building of this laboratory resulted from a proposal by the Society that it was essential to progress in developing high quality varieties of fruits and vegetables suitable for canning and freezing. A second laboratory of a similar nature is planned for the Dominion Experimental Station, Lethbridge, Alberta.

The Dominion Experimental Farms Service is now in the process of implementing a much enlarged and invigorated fruit breeding program following a pattern outlined by the Society. As the program develops, three key testing stations of 25 acres each will be established; one in each of the three prairie provinces, at the University of Alberta, the University of Saskatchewan, and at

the Hardy Plant Nursery, Dropmore, Manitoba. The Morden Experimental Station will serve as the main breeding station, with facilities and varieties available for use in producing the crosses and seedlings required by the other stations for testing. Approval has been given to the project by the various institutions concerned.

THE Society has recognized the great amount of injury caused to fruit trees and ornamental plants by high lime chlorosis, or yellowing of the foliage, and has been active in urging that early work be undertaken to develop remedial measures. As a result plans are being formulated by the Dominion Department of Agriculture to undertake such work at the Soils Research Laboratory, Swift Current, Saskatchewan, under Dr. J. L. Doughty.

Dr. F. L. Skinner, Dropmore, reported on his visit to Europe the past summer. He had observed that a number of species which were thriving at his nursery and at Morden, Manitoba, were doing poorly at Kew Gardens, England. He believes that many other such unthrifty species at Kew may likewise be of much value with us.

A significant number of these unthrifty species were native in areas of Asia and Europe not unlike our own in climate. Certain poplars, lilacs, and maples, are of such origin. Similarly, he is going to try out a number of types from northern Sweden which he obtained from arboreta in the south of that country. He believes that a strain of Norway maple and Swedish juniper may prove hardy.

W. L. Kerr of the Sutherland Forestry Station, reporting for the committee investigating rodent control, demonstrated a trap for rabbits which had proved quite effective at his station (see cut). The trap can easily be constructed in the home workshop and may prove a boon to home gardeners and orchardists in controlling this destructive pest.

A survey of fire-blight in apples grown in prairie orchards reported by I. Nonnecke of the Lethbridge Station revealed that very few varieties are consistently resistant to this disease. Many varieties were reported resistant at one station and susceptible or partly so at another. The varieties, Columbia, Bedford, Trail, Rescue, and Haralson, were quite consistently resistant, and Dolgo fairly so.

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varieties were reported by Chas. Walkof, Morden Experimental Station, to be yielding good results. These trials have so far included varieties of beans, sweet corn, and tomatoes. Bean varieties showing good adaptability in most areas are Round Pod Kidney Wax and Stringless Greenpod or Tendergreen. Early Chatham and Bounty tomatoes have given good satisfaction, except in the more northerly regions. Marcross, Sugar Prince, and Burbank sweet corn have been quite successful generally south of the main line of the C.P.R. Earlier varieties such as Dorinny and Golden Gem have been better north of this line.

Mr. Walkof stressed the need for greater publicity of the results of these trials, to counteract the effects of the publicity given in Canada to the All-American trials of the U.S. The winners in the All-American trials are frequently not suited to western Canadian conditions.

A NUMBER of excellent papers were presented. Dr. T. Pavlychenko, University of Saskatchewan, reviewed the present status of 2,4-D in control of weeds. His report on chemical summerfallow without cultivation was of much interest. The chemically summerfallowed plots were higher in moisture, showed no soil cracking, and were of a desirable physical condition when compared with the cultivated and the non-summerfallowed plots. Although useful in many crops for weed control, Dr. Pavlychenko stressed the great need for caution, particularly with the ester formulations when working near susceptible crops, to avoid damage.

Dr. J. T. Spinks, professor of chemistry, University of Saskatchewan, reviewed his work with radioactive phosphorus and showed how atomic research is playing a very important role in studying the behavior of elements in growing plants. The use of radioactive fertilizer elements has provided a means of measuring the proportion of applied fertilizer actually used by the crop plants and the proportion left in the soil unused or wasted. Many other factors such as the best placement of fertilizer or the most readily used forms could be studied effectively. Dr. Spinks pointed out that radioactivity provides a means of studying the process of photosynthesis and many other growth processes of the plant not fully understood by the scientist.

Dr. A. P. Arnason, officer-in-charge of the Entomological Laboratory at Saskatoon, very capably summarized the most recent developments in insecticides. Chlordane is similar in most ways to DDT but is particularly effective in control of grasshoppers. Parathion and H.E.T.P. control the insects controlled by DDT and, in addition, are effective against mites and aphids.

M. B. Davis gave a most interesting and informative review of the research in horticulture at experimental institutions in the various Canadian provinces outside the Great Plains region.

Considerable time was given to discussion of potato problems. Papers were presented by Messrs. N. M. Parks, Ottawa, J. W. Marritt, Seed Certification Service, Edmonton, and O. S. Olsen, Manitoba Potato Breeding Project. Breeding work at present with potatoes is being conducted at the Dominion Experimental Station, Fredericton; the University of Saskatchewan, and the University of Manitoba. Mr. Marritt pointed out that Canadian-grown seed potatoes are in high demand and find markets in such countries as Argentina, Mexico, the West Indies, the Atlantic Coast States, and Palestine. This industry is largely dependent on the maintenance of a high quality seed product.

The new executive will be headed by P. D. Hargrave, Superintendent Horticultural Station, Brooks, Alberta, President, and Dr. R. J. Hilton, Professor of

Horticulture, University of Alberta, vice-president, C. R. Ure, Morden, is permanent secretary. The 1949 convention will be held in Edmonton.

(E. T. Andersen is professor of Horticulture at the University of Manitoba).

Heavenly Blues for Your Garden
I'VE made a discovery, and, being a woman, I feel compelled to tell somebody. It may as well be you.

A dazzling display of Heavenly Blue morning glories in the town of Stettler, Alberta, some years ago has kept me busy ever since trying to duplicate it. However, 1946 was the first time I had any success, regardless of the fact that I always followed the instructions on the package religiously. So I got desperate.

I read up on all I could find on moonflowers. I found out they are a tropical vine and need a lot of heat. Then I came across the idea of sprouting the moonflower seeds before planting. Having had success with sprouting sweet pea seeds, I tried it with the Heavenly Blues. It worked! I felt like an astrophysicist who had just discovered a new star.

I hunted up an old metal tray. On this I placed folds of an old Turkish towel well dampened. I filed the seeds and placed them inside the towel, kept them damp and in a warm place. They were sprouted in two days. First the roots appeared, then the crinkled pink leaves. I planted each little seedling in a two-inch pot, put them on the tray and set them in the sun porch for three weeks.

When I planted them outside, I found the pots full of roots. By holding my hand under the upturned pot and tapping it lightly the plants came out with the roots intact. On the south side of the porch they received all the sunlight there was and bloomed to my entire satisfaction. — Blanche Adcock, Coronation, Alta.

Bush Tomatoes Most Popular

CHARLES WALKOF of the Morden Station, refers to the bush tomato as a prairie garden favorite, because commercial seed sales show that it is 15 times as popular as the staking tomato.

Mr. Walkof emphasizes the fact that varieties now in use are much superior to the bush tomato varieties first developed. These had weak fruiting branches born on open and scrawly plants. The result was that the fruit was exposed to the hot sun and scalded easily. It rotted quickly in wet weather because the fruit rested on the ground. Newer varieties have stiffer branches, holding the fruit off the ground; and have better foliage cover.

Plant breeders are seeking early, even ripening, and large-fruited bush tomatoes of good quality. A considerable number of selections have already been made at Morden and a number are expected to be ready for distribution soon. One strain originated at Morden is strain 217 of the Early Chatham variety. This one has plants that are compact, with strong, stubby branches. The fruit is a deep-bodied, brilliant red color, and has a pleasing mild flavor. The seed is now available for seed dealers.

One interesting type of the bush tomato observed at Morden is a cross-bred, which carries its fruit in a bulky cluster around a stiff, upright stem. Another bears fruit in a cluster on a cushion of foliage. Some hybrid bush tomatoes have been secured at Morden, and several of these have yielded five to eight pounds more ripe fruit per plant than either parent variety, and the tomatoes have been proved uniform and of excellent flavor. The plants also seem to indicate marked resistance to leaf diseases.

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CASH income from the sale of farm products in Canada in 1947 amounted to \$1,990.6 million. The total is \$2,002.1 million, if \$11.57 million are added for supplementary government payments. Income, less supplementary payments, compares with \$1,752.7 million in 1946, \$1,694.5 million in 1945, and \$1,829 million in 1944, the previous peak year. Of the 1947 total, Ontario got \$546.3 million, Saskatchewan \$434.1 million, Alberta \$345.5 million, Quebec \$295.8 million, British Columbia \$92.7 million, and the Maritime Provinces \$90.4 million. Principal items were \$654.6 million from grain, feeds and hay, and \$590 million from livestock.

ACTUAL farm prosperity is revealed in a recent Dominion Bureau of Statistics analysis of farm output in Manitoba and Saskatchewan (Alberta not yet available), for the year ending May 31, 1946. This is an analysis from the 1946 census of the prairie provinces, and shows for each province "the value of farm products sold plus the value of farm products used by the farm household." The latter includes "both the value of home-grown vegetables and fruit, dairy products, wool, honey and wax, eggs, potatoes, livestock (including poultry consumed), and forest products used by all households on the farm."

Of 54,448 occupied farms in Manitoba, 53,564 reported. Of these, 33,207, or 67.6 per cent of all Manitoba farms had a gross output of less than \$2,500, of which about a third were \$1,500 and over, less than half from \$600 to \$1,499, and about 16 per cent less than \$600. Only 7,522 farms, or 13.7 per cent, had gross incomes of \$4,000 or over, and only one per cent had total farm products sold or used, at \$10,000 or more.

Of the 125,612 Saskatchewan farms, 120,773 reported. Of these, 86,579, or 68.4 per cent had gross incomes of less than \$2,500. These were proportioned almost exactly the same as in the case of Manitoba, with less than a third having output of \$1,500 or over, substantially less than half between \$600 and \$1,499 and 17.8 per cent \$599 or less. Only nine-tenths of one per cent of Saskatchewan farmers had gross output of \$10,000 or over.

These figures are in spite of a cash income from the sale of farm products in Canada of \$1,752.7 million in 1946, and \$1,694.5 million in 1945.

THE hog-barley ratio in February was 19.6, in December it was 13.9. The hog-barley ratio is the number of bushels of No. 1 Feed barley at Winnipeg, which would equal the price of 100 pounds of B1 bacon hog at Winnipeg. If the ratio rises, it means feed is becoming relatively cheaper, and hog feeding relatively more profitable. Hog feeding was less profitable in December than at

any time for ten years. It was most profitable in July, 1939, when the ratio stood at 34.8. The long time average is 17.2.

MANITOBA operated more threshing machines in 1946 than in 1936 (9,834 and 9,622 respectively). Combines in the same period increased from 498 to 5,723. In 1936, 821 farmers reported having 1,186 electric motors, but in 1946 there were 2,229 farms reporting 4,698 electric motors. In the 10-year period, motor trucks increased from 3,299 to 9,970, gasoline engines from 16,915 to 19,018, tractors from 14,685 to 30,799, automobiles from 22,988 to 28,333. Binders have decreased. In 1936, 36,231 farms reported 44,360, but in 1946, 35,152 farms reported 39,296 binders.

BASED on average prices received by farmers for the first half of the crop year, the gross value of principal Canadian field crops in 1947 is placed at \$1,315 million by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This value is the fifth highest since 1908. Saskatchewan leads all provinces with \$343 million, Ontario \$277 million, Alberta \$273 million, Quebec \$162 million, Manitoba \$145 million, New Brunswick \$41 million, British Columbia \$31 million, Nova Scotia \$22 million, and Prince Edward Island \$21 million. Wheat value was \$398 million, hay and clover \$242 million, oats \$190 million and barley \$125 million.

WOOL production in Canada last year at 14,090,000 pounds, was lower than in any year since 1929. From 1939-1944 the farm value of shorn wool and cash income from wool rose steadily. Since 1945, the number of sheep has declined. The average price of wool in 1947 was 28.2 cents compared with 28 cents per pound in 1946.

IN January, 1948, the index number of farm prices of agricultural products stood at 222.1, as compared with 100 for the average of the 1935-1939 period. For the year 1935, the level of farm prices stood at 88, and beginning in 1939, it rose through the war years as follows: 91.8, 96.8, 110.2, 133.1, 157.8, 172.3, 177.3, 184.2 (1946). The 1947 index averaged 195.5, but it had risen during the year from 186.5 in January to 210.1 in December.

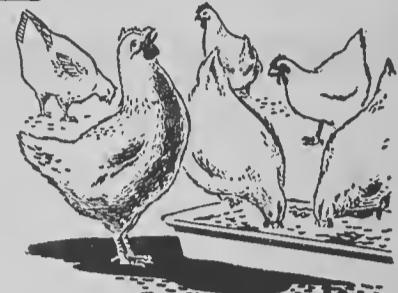
IN January, Saskatchewan hens laid fewer eggs than in any province in Canada, averaging 8.47 each. Manitoba was next lowest with 8.95 each. Alberta was fourth highest with 10.65 each and British Columbia second with 12.43. The Prairie Provinces combined had 10,087,000 layers compared with 10,807,000 in Ontario, but prairie hens produced 3.56 million dozen fewer eggs.



Prairie farmers got over \$26 million less cash income from livestock in 1947 than in 1946. Saskatchewan was down \$19 million and Manitoba \$5 million, but hogs were up \$3 million in Alberta and Manitoba.

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Staple Puller

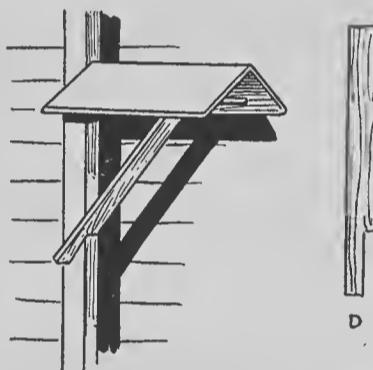
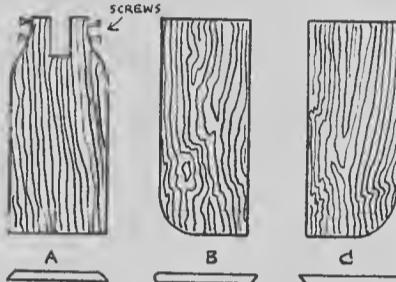
A handy little staple puller can be made from an old, large file, with the pointed end bent to form a hook. Put-



ting the point of the hook through the staple and prying backwards against a picket or post, using the file as a lever, pulls the staple out easily. Filing the pointed end of the hook to a sharper point makes it easier to get it under the staple.—Ray D. Overgard.

Saddle Trees

To make the illustrated saddle tree, get three pieces of 1x8, each 20 inches long, and a two-foot piece of 2x2 or 1x4 to make the brace "D." Cut one piece of 1x8 to resemble "A." Make a 1 1/4 x 3 1/2-inch notch in centre of one end and cut



off 1 1/4" at each adjoining corner. This allows this piece to slip over a 2x4 stud and be screw-nailed securely into place. Bevel the edges of "A" to a 30-degree angle. If saddle tree is to be attached to a flat wall, don't cut any notches in "A" at all.

Round the corners of pieces "B" and "C" as shown and smooth off the edges with a plane. Cut the joining edges to a 60-degree angle. Fasten "A" to the wall at a convenient height and set in a level position with brace "D." Finish the job by nailing "B" and "C" together like the roof of a house and attach to "A" with two or three two-inch nails on each side. I made three of these trees for our saddles and I find that they keep the skirts and all leather parts in their proper shape. They are very handy, as a saddle is easily put on or taken off. I would not be without them. — Robert J. Roder.

Lubrication Aid

Painting a spoke white or making a white stripe on implement wheels on the same side of the wheel as the oil hole or grease fitting, shows when the fitting is in a position to take grease. The white stripe should be on the side of the wheel that can be seen from a tractor seat. This idea is of especial help with tillers and other equipment requiring frequent lubrication.—E. Smart.

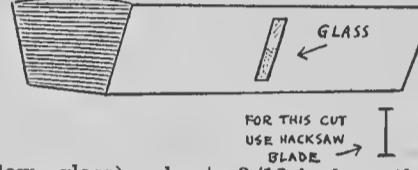
Easy Sorting for Small Parts

Bolts and nuts are most frequently kept in cans or boxes. To find one of the right size or shape nearly always means dumping the parts out, sometimes on the floor, then picking them up carefully and replacing in the container later. It takes time, loses parts, and dirties them. This handy device is made from a shallow discarded bake pan, with a corner opening cut out as shown. Parts to be sorted can be spread out in the pan, afterwards poured back into the container through the corner gap. Hang the pan up when not in use.—E. Smart.



Seeding Box Window

I have put this handy little gadget on my tiller seed box and seed drill, and have found it not only useful but a great time-saver. I used a piece of car window glass (not ordinary win-

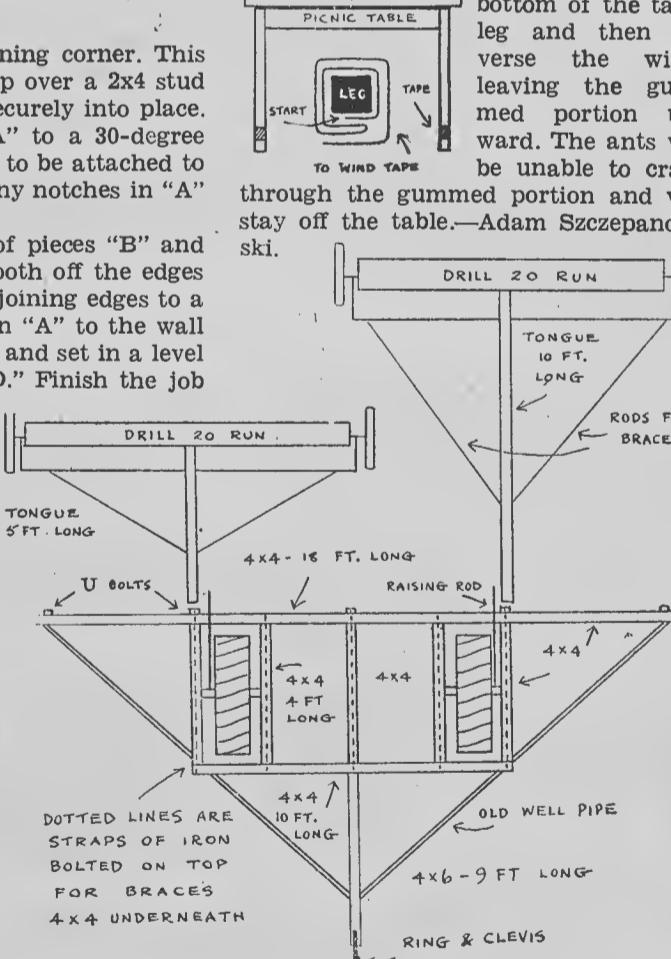


dow glass) about 3/16-inches thick, nine inches long and two inches wide, to make a window in the front part of the seeding box, so that the tractor operator can see the height of the grain without stopping and opening the seeder box. Since all seed drills have steel boxes now, these windows are easy to install. A bit of gasket goo around the edges of the glass makes it rainproof and dustproof.—Armand Vincent.

Repulsing Ant Offensives

An easy method of keeping the ants off of the picnic table is to wrap a piece of tape around the bottom of the table leg and then reverse the wind, leaving the gummed portion upward. The ants will

be unable to crawl through the gummed portion and will stay off the table.—Adam Szczepanowski.



Tractor Hitch for Two Drills

I made this tractor hitch some years ago and it works very well. I hook my two 20-run drills to it and also two sets of six-section harrows. The tractor is a 15-30 which handles the hook-up nicely. I bolted the bull wheel hangers in on the 4x4 so that I can raise or lower the hitch to suit.—Harry Kemp, Girvin, Sask.

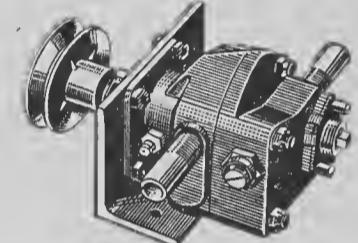
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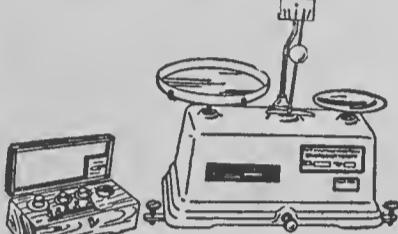


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Peace Time Pilots

It is hard to keep old war-time flyers on the ground

By GILL SHARK

OME of World War II's best pilots came out of the bushland of the prairie provinces, and some of these boys, with the help of D.V.A. and working through commercial airlines, are flying freight to the north today, piloting rescue missions, spraying weed-killer over farms and otherwise generally riding the air for a living. And, as D.V.A. offices can tell you, there is seldom a failure.

A couple of boys I know bought an old "kite" after the war was over, overhauled it and made it flyable, added the necessary equipment for crop-spraying, and took to canvassing the farmers. For three dollars an acre, they'd spray. Having been farm boys themselves before becoming eagles of the air may have helped both in their salesmanship and spraying. Anyhow, the weeds took a beating and the boys now operate two planes of their own, while renting two others in rush weather.

They rent space in the old hangars of the Edmonton airport for storing their planes during the winter months. Such space is not cheap—evidence enough of how successful the boys have been in their venture.

I became acquainted with Jack Pounds who also came out of the bush country of the north and, after his discharge from King George's Royal Canadian Eagles, found his heart still where the motors were warming up. He landed a job with a reputable northern airline and has had experiences which are both intensely human and intensely gripping.

ON one occasion, in the north they were routed out of bed in 62-degree cold for a "mercy flight." Over the frozen northland Jack and a Mountie flew to rescue a halfbreed girl from a Catholic mission school, where she had been placed by her parents.

Getting the girl into the plane alone was a task. She seemed half-demented by pain. She kicked and she fought, and twice she bit the R.C.M.P. and brought blood.

All the way back to a hospital, the Mountie sat in the back of the plane, nursing his sore hand, and swabbing a cloth saturated in chloroform over the girl's face. Every time she gave a kick or tried to raise her head, the action was repeated.

But the halfbreed girl was cunning. She pretended to be unconscious while she marshalled her strength. Again she fought savagely and with superhuman energy. Again she bit the dishevelled Mountie, who yelled at the pilot to make more speed, since the girl's pain had obviously demented her.

A surprising end to the "mercy flight" came as the plane reached its base. It turned out the girl was not ill at all, though she had been able to fake illness successfully. All she wanted was a cigarette—and the Mission Sisters had none to give her. She had faked emergency sickness in the knowledge that a mercy flight would be sent to bring her out.

And what about the poor Mountie? From the bites in his hands, he incurred blood poisoning, and a mercy plane had to fly him to an Edmonton hospital!

ANOTHER enterprising pilot was flying around the rim of the Arctic sea one day when he spotted a polar bear ambling on the wastes below. Of course, said pilot had seen polar bears before; in fact, in wartime flying in the north, many a small bomb was "accidentally" dropped on a polar bear or a whale. But the sight of this bear gave the pilot an idea.

In Edmonton, the polar bear rugs sold for good money, upwards of \$300 and (Turn to page 72)

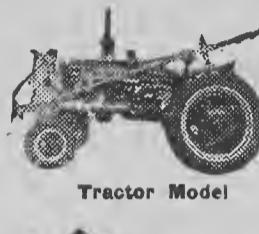
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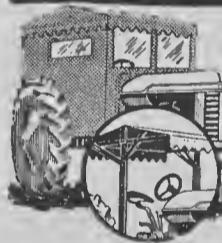
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HEAD OFFICE and FACTORY - GUELPH, CANADA

**THE MARCH OF
THE HARVEST**

Continued from page 15

and they were driving plenty fast. They roared by our longer string in a hurry, but more about them later.

Shortly after we were thrilled by our first glimpse of the mighty Missouri, a river we were to cross five times before our trip was finished. Late that afternoon we sighted the tall square mass of the North Dakota capitol building which seemed to be growing out of the greenish, grey prairie into the hills before us. What a striking piece of architecture! Below in the valley, was the city of Bismarck. It was still too dark and wet for pictures—Roger again loud with lamentations, but no use. On we rolled, and shortly the signs told us we had left North and were entering South Dakota.

That night the rain let up a little and we camped at Selby, South Dakota. Here the flood of rumors hit us. There were too many combines down south; Texas wheat was ripe and most of it cut; Texas wheat was too green; rates were all cut to pieces—all this, and a whole lot more. I didn't listen to these rumors myself. My mind was taken up too much with trying to pilot a route which would not be too much off the most direct way, and there were all the troubles of servicing, meals, rain, head winds, and low underpasses.

ON the morning of June 10, it was pouring rain, just falling down, and didn't we have our own troubles pulling the long, heavy trailers out of the muddy parking lot onto the hard gravel highway. By noon we got to Pierre, capital city of South Dakota. Here we first crossed the Missouri and again rain and clouds and no pictures. What weather!

Here we caught up to the two Saskatchewan outfits. On the other side of the Missouri there was about a mile of road under construction, when the rains descended, and what a bottomless mess of clay muck that was! The construction company had two caterpillars pulling cars and trucks by, but they would not for the time being pull the two Saskatchewan boys until there would be a better track through. They pulled us, however, so we passed our friends, to see more of them later.

When we were a few miles from Vivian, South Dakota, we had our first threat of serious accident. Ted was in front with his outfit and I was next. We saw Ted's reach, a steel pipe between the front and rear wheels of his 20-foot trailer, broken and thrashing wildly. If the end of it struck the road and caught, it would upset trailer, truck, combine and everything. He was traveling about 35 miles an hour. We waved

our arms, blinked our lights off and on—all the stop signs that we had agreed on. Still no stop. His mirror was no doubt clouded with wet. We tried to come up close, but our ton-and-a-half was no match for his three-ton.

AT long last he noticed our frantic efforts, slowed down and stopped. With the assistance of chains we pulled into Vivian, where we had dinner, got the reach welded, and pulled on eastward, this time into wheat country, with the spring and winter wheat looking splendid as the result of abundant moisture.

On to Presho, to Jordan, to Colonne, and finally we saw the welcome sign, "You are leaving South Dakota," and "You are now entering the State of Nebraska." An hour or so after dark we got into Bute, and parked for the night.

The next day, on our early morning inspection of hitches, tires, etc., we found that our house trailer hitch, a patent affair of which I had always been very dubious, was just about gone, and what a disaster that would have been! So we hunted up mechanics and welders and built up a new hitch for the house trailer, which suited me much better.

We rolled out of Bute about 5.00 p.m., crossed the river and pulled out of O'Neil just as the rain again hit us—this time a real storm. There was nothing to do but keep on rolling, as there were very few side roads. This was a mixed farm and stock country, lots of hay lakes, and sloughs, low lying land, no wheat.

On and on we went in the dark—no towns on the highway. We hoped to hit Bartlett, but struck a detour instead and found ourselves at Spaulding—still rainy but found a wide street and parked for the night. Next morning we saw lots of real storm damage—crops lodged and twisted, buildings destroyed, fences and trees torn down. We were surely glad we had missed this terrific damage. If we had got caught in it we would have had nothing left of our machines, maybe our lives as well.

Breakfast at St. Paul, and on through Grand Island and then the wonderful crops which never left us all the rest of the way. Winter wheat as high as the fences—everything a dark, healthy green in color.

Now we were going west again, following the beautiful fertile valley of the Platte, a river made famous by Indians, the U.S. army, and later the movies. On through Kearney, which had been a scene of great military and flying activity during the war, a beautiful city with its splendid tree-lined streets.

At Elm Creek, we once more turned south and crossed the Platte for the first time. And still the amazing fields of bearded winter wheat—tremendous crops.

WE eventually bid goodbye to Nebraska and entered Kansas, the greatest wheat state of the American union. Kansas port of entry on 183 is



The crew that went south with the J.K.S. outfit. Mr. Sutherland is on the extreme left.

at Philipsburg, famous as being the site of the first co-operative oil refinery in the world. Here we had to show our insurance papers; combines and trucks were checked.

On south through Kansas and the wonderful crop of wheat, the fertile wheat soil of Kansas. Here again our minds went back to the days of Buffalo Bill as he shot the buffalo for meat for the graders who built the Union Pacific Railway. We were west of the famous town of Abilene, at one time the end of steel to which the first Chisholm trail herds of long-horn cattle from far away Texas were taken in those early stirring days.

By this time we had become familiar with almost innumerable oil derricks, a common sight all the rest of the way south. That night we bivouaced at Rozel, and at last fine weather and pictures for Roger. Next morning we crossed the Arkansas River, and still a little farther on we crossed the Cimarron, both these famous in song and story and movie. What a thrill to see those streams of which we had read so much.

FORTY miles an hour, and we entered Oklahoma. Cutting had started in some parts. From Rosston on south on 283 till we hit No. 60, which brought us westward to cross into Texas at Higgins, where we made some pictures and camped for the night. That night, as we were tuning in our radios we were so thrilled to get CBK, Watrous, and to get the CBC news from home.

Higgins was a tragic sight. The storm which had taken the town of Woodward, Oklahoma, and killed 175 people a few weeks previously, also struck Higgins and killed seven people. No buildings were left standing. The people were courageously cleaning up the streets and starting to rebuild.

Early on Saturday, June 14, we left Higgins, went through lots of dry cattle country and then came to another famous stream, the Canadian River. We crossed near the town of Canadian. The bridge is so long and narrow that we had to send one of the boys across with a red flag to stop traffic at the other end. This was by far the longest bridge on the whole trip.

Breakfast at Canadian and we soon rolled into the wheat country of the Texas Panhandle. Here the crops would not be ripe for a couple of weeks, but we knew that farther south cutting had started. Here we saw the huge semi-trailers powered by diesel engines, hauling tremendous loads of watermelons from south Texas for the northern market. The boys' craving for melons was soon a thing of the past.

HERE too, we were stopped by the farmers on the streets. When would we be back, was the anxious enquiry. They had a good crop, also a good price. They were commencing to worry.

Here, too, we were thrilled by that delightful soft Texas accent, and the first evidence of Texas hospitality and courtesy, which I will never forget. When you leave a business place or service station, they have such a pleasing way of saying, "Come back," with a most hospitable inflection. This little habit gave us all a pleasurable anticipation of southern courtesy.

Shortly afterwards we skirted Amarillo, quite a city, with huge terminal elevators, and on south to Plainview. By this time we had seen hundreds of combine outfits, some from Canada and others from the northern States, converging on the Texas wheat crop, the biggest crop in the history of the State.

Sunday, June 15, was showery with thunder storms. I visited some of the Texas custom cutters who had already cut a few days farther south and east, and got a lot of valuable tips from them. And so Sunday passed.

We contacted J. B. Kidd, Director of Emergency Farm Labor, early Monday

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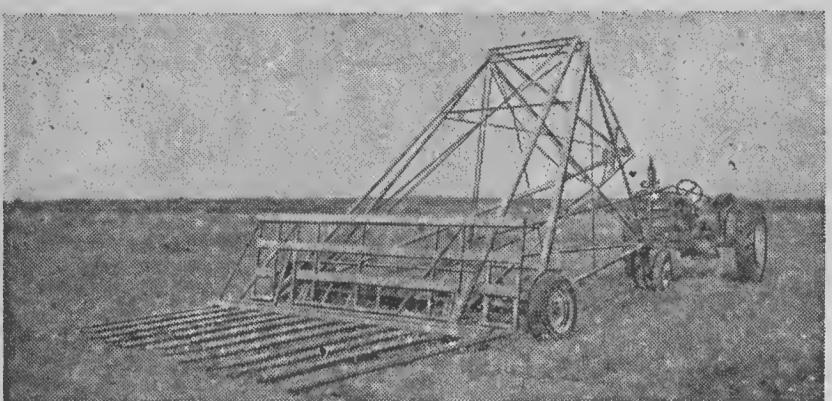
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Seed Disinfectants

morning and he assured us it was safe to unload our combines there as we would be sure to get jobs somewhere in the area. So we started unloading our machines and getting ready to move. That same afternoon our first contract came along with Mr. Kidd, a Mr. Barton, from Abernethy, about 25 miles south, where wheat and cotton crops are pretty evenly divided. By Tuesday afternoon our machines were on the way out to Mr. Barton's farm for our first taste of harvesting in Texas.

About 11:00 a.m. next day, all the trucks were filled with wheat. We had cut our first wheat in Texas. The machines worked well, and so that night alongside of Texas stubble, we dreamt of far-away Alberta.

Combine harvesting in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas is vastly different from that of the three prairie provinces of Canada. In Alberta our harvest may drag on anywhere from a month up to two and a half or three months if the weather is bad. Down there the farmers are in a desperate hurry to get their wheat crop safe. It is pretty well all ripe in one community at the same time. The big operators are very much afraid of wind and hail, either one of which may destroy a crop. So what they want to do is to hire enough custom cutters, as we combine operators are called, to cut their wheat acreage in from eight to 12 days, less if at all possible.

That, of course, means cutting early in the morning and working as late as possible at night. At night with a very warm southwest wind blowing off the New Mexican desert, combines can run up until two or three a.m., sometimes all night. On the other hand, a southeast wind blowing off the Gulf of Mexico is a damp wind that may stop you even at nine or ten o'clock at night.

Another factor is that the further south you go nearer the Equator, the days in summer are much shorter than ours up here. Sunday is, of course, just another day.

IN Texas they are not very much in favor of piling wheat on the ground. The farmers say to the combine operator, "Cut this wheat as fast as you can and get it to the elevator, if not at this town because of plugged elevators, go on to the next. If there is no room there, on to the nearest terminal." We hauled wheat as far as 30 or 40 miles. And when the job is done, hunt up the farmer and a perfectly good cheque is always ready.

Their elevators down in the south (outside of the terminals, of course) are not, generally speaking, as large or modern as our country elevators up here. Scales are usually located outside the house, where the grading is also done. They depend so much more on a continuous supply of railway cars than we do. They load cars and take wheat all night as long as the supply of cars lasts in the extreme south. They keep tractors on hand to spot the railway cars, and it is quite a common thing to pull in and find as many as 100 or 150 trucks lined up to unload.

In northern Oklahoma and much more so in Kansas, they make a common practice of piling wheat either on the farm or on vacant lots in town. I imagine that probably almost 50 per cent of the Kansas wheat crop in the '47 harvest, was piled.

In the matter of moisture testing of grain, which is far more important down there than it is up here, due of course to the intensely high temperatures of that region, they are miles ahead of us up here. They have electric moisture testers down there at all their country elevators, which give an accurate test in a matter of 10 or 15 seconds. Grading is not so strict as in Canada. Of course, the prices were, and at the moment of writing still are, much higher than ours.

One of the problems those farmers

have down there is our old nightmare of a fluctuating price. We hauled about 700 bushels to a round trip of our three trucks. The market price changes at noon. The question always was, "Can this round be in by noon, in case it goes down?" With all their high prices, many of those farmers were most fearful of the future. The recent catastrophic break in prices of products of the farm down there, proved that there were some grounds for their anxiety.

Without one single exception, we found the farmers easy to deal with. There were no complaints. Get the job done and get it done well and fast. These were the main things. No haggling over rates and prices. Two farmers gave us more than we had coming. They had had fair crops for three consecutive years; 1947 was a real bumper. They were out of debt. They were getting a good price and on that basis they were all regular princes to deal with. They all asked us back again if we ever harvested south in the future.

I might say that on the whole, Canadian operators acquitted themselves very well down there. They had good machines and trucks, and they knew how to operate them. Anything outside of equipment in No. 1 shape, and experienced operators, are absolutely hopeless down there, and once an outfit gets a bad reputation, that reputation certainly will carry far, and swiftly.

ONE feature of the American countryside is the good roads. We hauled big loads fast and continuously but never blew a tire or broke a single leaf of a spring. Definitely, if you haven't good roads you pay for that lack in this day and age eventually anyway.

We experienced the greatest degree of courtesy and hospitality from every single one down there that we came in contact with. There were first of all, the men at the head of the International Combine Exchange in various states; in their university extension departments; the county agents everywhere; all the officials, Federal and State; the business men and co-ops, with whom we did business; the farmers for whom we worked; our associates either from Canada or the United States, cutting grain along with us. All were the finest people I ever met.

Speaking personally, it was a strenuous summer. For the whole trip, I do not believe I averaged more than four and a half or five hours sleep a night. I did not operate a combine, but drove grain truck, looked after repairs, spare parts, bought all the groceries for a 10-man crew, selected roads and routes, looked after jobs, hauled water and gas, and a dozen other duties and chores, to say nothing of doing my small part in planning and helping the Film Board crew in the takes for the proposed film.

One of the nightmares of harvest, both to farmers and cutters, is fire, more especially with long, heavy stubble, such as the '47 harvest. This stubble is powder dry and almost equally inflammable. We carried a good supply of Pyrenes on every piece of equipment we had, trucks, combines, tractors and everything. One fire that started a few miles north of where we harvested, took well over 12,000 bushels of wheat. One Canadian outfit was completely destroyed, the boys only escaping with their lives.

I cannot refrain from saying a word about the dramatic aspect of harvesting at night on those southern plains—combine lights travelling in every direction as far as the eye could see in those large fields. Wheat, wheat everywhere! Trucks roaring here and there with blazing lights. Plains dotted with the lights of innumerable oil fields. All this one frantic rush to save the wheat. Off to town, five, 10 or 20 miles at night with a load of wheat, hundreds of others doing the same. Heavy, continuous traffic on the highway, dust and heat and sweat. All this is harvesting in the south.

I HAVE just mentioned heat. There is plenty of that. The intense heat was one thing that worried our boys. We got into it, got a good coat of tan on our bare backs and got through it fine. The one saving factor was the splendid drinking water, coming out of the ground from those deep wells almost as warm as fresh milk. We carried water bags on combines and trucks alike. We drank gallons of it day and night and we felt fine. We stood the heat much better than we anticipated.

One day in Nebraska the fluid in our thermometer was up to the top of the glass all afternoon. Finally, at 5:10 p.m. as the cook was out preparing potatoes for supper he heard a faint spat and, yes, the bulb had blown out of the thermometer. Well, after that we didn't know how hot it was.

Repairs and spare parts were a working nightmare. All these repairs were in short supply. I had left home with about \$500 worth of spare parts. That is just one indication of some of the costs of a trip of this kind. One Sunday in Kansas John and I drove over 250 miles looking for spare parts.

Speaking generally, I would say that the farmers in the American end of the wheat belt were better off than Canadian farmers. I am quite sure that there is no question about this. They have had three good crops at good prices. The '47 crop was, of course, outstanding. All this has meant a wave of prosperity. However, I saw the shape of things to come in considerable evidence already of unemployment among young people in the south. This tended to disappear as we came farther north.

The people, speaking generally, down there do not know a great deal about their northern neighbor. One grizzled old Oklahoma farmer asked me why King George of England had his name last and MacKenzie, King of Canada, had his name first. Quite a well-to-do business man, on seeing Alberta, Canada, on our trucks said his brother-in-law had hunted moose in New Brunswick—was that in Alberta or close to it?

Well, back to our crew and combines again. By the time we were finished in Texas the Oklahoma crop was pretty well finished and so, early on Wednesday morning, July 9, we left Amarillo for Kansas. By nine o'clock on Thursday evening we started cutting in Johnson, Kansas. There was a whale of a heavy crop everywhere. Combines and trucks going north by the hundreds. Wheat piled here and there.

SUNDAY, July 20, we pulled out of Johnson for Syracuse, Kansas, where we had to wait until morning to get our cheques cashed. Syracuse was like any other wheat belt town—crammed full of custom combiners—restaurants jammed day and night—money, lots of it. Farmers looking for combiners, anxious service station operators looking at empty gasoline tanks, combines and trucks lining the streets from 20 states and three provinces. All this was the northerly rushing harvest.

On up north we went, crossed into Nebraska and camped for the night at Benkleman. For over an hour we had been driving on a high grade in a most violent electrical storm. There was no way of getting off that grade. The rain was teeming down. I speeded up with the house trailer to try to get some place where we could park the truck, and finally got to a service station on the outskirts of Benkleman. Fortunately, he had plenty of parking space, so when the trucks pulled in we were all glad to be off the highway. In the morning when we awoke we found every available inch of space taken up with Saskatchewan combine outfits.

Next day we pulled out for Imperial, and waited around a few days, overhauling and doing minor repairs, and with

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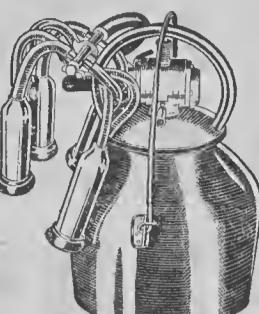
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fine weather, pulled out for the Nebraska harvest south of Enders.

By August 2 we were finished and ready for a long pull into the spring wheat of North Dakota. We decided we would not stop in South Dakota, so coming through Imperial again we pulled north until we struck the beautiful valley of the Platte. Along this wonderful valley we rolled, and camped at Llewelyn on the north side. Next morning we followed the river for miles in a fertile, irrigated valley—beet fields, alfalfa, and all that irrigation makes possible.

We passed through Alliance which town was literally immersed in migrating combines—most of them heading north. But now there was a very definite trend of the Oklahoma and Texas machines going south again for the maize harvest. They knew by this time that crop possibilities were very poor in large areas on the Canadian prairies. So instead of spending money going farther north they were heading for home.

We reached Jamestown, North Dakota, late in the evening of August 6. Here we ran into bad weather, and there was a great shortage of swathers to cut the grain. In eastern North Dakota, a lot of the wheat is swathed and allowed to lie in the swath for a few days to ripen more quickly than it would if left standing. So it was not until Saturday, August 9, that we pulled out of Jamestown for Kensal, 30 miles north, where we picked up a lot of swathed wheat, also did considerable straight combining. This was spring wheat, without beards, and it was indeed a welcome change from the bearded winter wheat. Those beards, being very dry, are pulverized up into a very irritating dust, so that harvesting bald spring wheat is much more pleasant.

BY the time we had finished in this area, the Montana wheat was pretty well cut, and as the advice by wire and phone from home, was to the effect that swathing had started on the light crop at home, we decided to roll for Alberta. We pulled out on the evening of Thursday, August 28, our American harvesting ended for the year.

On the following Monday we had dinner at the oil town of Shelby, and arrived at the boundary town of Sweet Grass on the American side, and Coutts on the Canadian side. This town was literally smothered in Alberta com-

bines, some of whom had got there on Saturday night too late for entering. As Monday was Labor Day and a holiday in Canada, they were still stranded there. There must have been about 40 outfits there, and meals were at a premium on both sides of the boundary. Both towns were very short of food.

By the time Tuesday morning came, lots of men were hungry and, yes, you guessed it, anxious to roll. It was late in the afternoon before we got through all the formalities with the representatives of both governments, duly recorded by Roger's camera. So that afternoon, as we rolled back into Canada we thought of the many experiences we had undergone since that wet day in June, almost three months before, when we had first gone down to visit Uncle Sam.

PLANS were to arrive in Hanna by noon, September 4, and have a civic welcome—school children, mayor, keys to the city and all the trimmings. But the best laid plans of mice and men gang aft agley. Nicely through Drumheller, a bearing went out on one of the wheels of the big trailer. We searched high and low through the town for a new or old bearing that would do. Finally, we secured an old bearing that we hoped would take us home.

So once more we rolled, arriving in Hanna to find the school children had given up hope of seeing us and had dispersed for home, but many of our friends and neighbors were still there. So Mayor Shacker got busy on the phone and in a few moments had a crowd together, and so once more Roger's camera clicked, just where it had clicked three months before.

My smaller truck registered well over 11,000 miles. We had saved a lot of wheat for hungry people. We had harvested pretty well over the length of the American wheat belt. We still had to try to save our own meagre crop at home. We had made hundreds of new friends, had been in nine states of the American Union, had co-operated with our brother farmers thousands of miles away, had crossed International boundary lines—all this in peace, in tolerance, in harmony and co-operation. We fervently desired that this example on the flying screen would give a new ray of hope to the war-fear stricken, desperate people of Europe and Asia. We hope you will see this film. We do hope you will like it.



A group of Alberta Hutterite women in a colony close to the site of the proposed St. Mary's River dam.



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• This feature is furnished monthly by United Grain Growers Limited

Monthly

Guaranteed Flax Price Reduced

The guaranteed minimum price for flaxseed is to be reduced for the coming crop year from the \$5.00 which was guaranteed for the current year. In addition to that guaranteed minimum, farmers have been getting an extra 50 cents per bushel for flax on account of sales made by the government to the United States.

The Honourable Mr. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, in announcing the reduced level for flax, stated that the situation in oil supplies is improving and that Canadian requirements for Flax next year can probably be made from a smaller acreage than was seeded to Flax in 1947-48. He stated that instead of the government buying all flax offered by farmers, it would buy only when the market is down to the basis of \$4.00 per bushel. The ceiling price is to be removed as at August 1 and transactions made, if desired, between buyer and seller may take place at higher levels.

The great scarcity of oils and fat which developed during the war and continued after its close, caused the government of Canada to apply to oil-bearing seeds a different handling system than was applied to any other grains. During a period of years a fixed price for flax was set, at which the government bought outright all flax offered to it. At times it resold such flax at a loss in Canada in order to keep down prices for oil and cake in Canada, and at the same time recovered part of the loss so incurred by exporting certain quantities of flax to the United States. During the current year exports promised to yield a profit sufficient to warrant the government in paying out an additional fifty cents a bushel in addition to the \$5.00 which was guaranteed.

Flax prices in the United States have run considerably higher than those in Canada and not long ago ranged between \$7.00 and \$8.00 per bushel. They have recently been declining, owing to the easing of the world situation in oils and now are not far above \$6.00 per bushel, which represents the minimum price which the government of the United States has guaranteed to farmers there for the current year.

Under the stimulus of increasing prices offered from year to year, the flax acreage of the Western Provinces was gradually expanded to 3,406,000 last year, yielding a crop valued approximately at \$60,000,000.

If free export of flax during the next crop year were to be allowed, there would be a fair prospect of a price level higher than the \$4.00 per bushel which is to be guaranteed. It appears, however, to be the intention of the government to maintain restrictions on exports and probably fees will be charged for export permits. Under such conditions it would be possible for the export control to be administered in such a way as to keep domestic prices in Canada down to the minimum level of \$4.00 per bushel or close to that amount.

Russia Charging High Prices

One of the mysteries of the current grain situation is with respect both to how much grain Russia can spare and how much she is actually supplying to other countries. In addition, prices actually paid for Russian grain are for the most part unknown. While there is little mention of exports of Russian wheat, feed grains, including oats, barley and corn, have been going to Great

Britain and a number of continental countries. The British Government has, as a rule, declined to disclose the prices paid for Russian grain. It is stated, however, apparently with authority, that the laid down cost of some corn recently landed from Russia in Great Britain was \$3.20 per bushel. That price, so much higher than the maximum price recently stipulated in the International Wheat Agreement and very much higher than the current price for corn in the United States, is giving rise to considerable criticism in Great Britain.

The International Wheat Agreement

After failure at London, in March, 1947, of negotiations for an international wheat agreement, such an agreement was finally arrived at in Washington in March, 1948. Ratification by Congress of the United States is not yet assured, and troubled economic and political conditions in the world throw some doubt on the workability of any international agreement. On the assumption that the agreement is ratified and that it works, Canada has a guaranteed export outlet during five years for 230,000,000 bushels annually for which minimum prices are stipulated. In return, Canada undertakes to sell for export 230,000,000 bushels annually and to charge not more than \$2.00 per bushel. What Canadian wheat producers get and what they give may be compared.

What Canadian Producers Get:

The following minimum prices are guaranteed:

1948-49	\$1.50 per bushel
1949-50	1.40 per bushel
1950-51	1.30 per bushel
1951-52	1.20 per bushel
1952-53	1.10 per bushel

These prices are in Canadian currency, based on No. 1 Northern in store at lakehead terminals. The prices are net, as agreed. Carrying charges and marketing costs may be added thereto.

No individual country has undertaken to buy any specified quantity of wheat from this country. Instead the importing countries which have signed the agreement undertake that if they are called on to do so they will buy a total of 500,000,000 bushels from the three exporting countries, Canada, the United States, and Australia. If Canada finds difficulty in selling wheat at the specified prices it may call on the International Wheat Council for assistance and the duty of that Council will then be to call on one or more of the importing countries to complete its obligation to purchase a specified quantity of wheat.

True, those guaranteed prices do not look high in relation to wheat prices which have recently prevailed, nor, so far as the most distant years are concerned, in relation to present costs of production. Also, the guarantee of \$1.50 per bushel for 1948-49 may, at the moment, seem unimportant. In the light of the fact that Canada was previously assured of \$2.00 per bushel from Great Britain for 140,000,000 bushels.

What Canadian Producers Give:

In return for that sense of security Canadian producers are called on to accept a ceiling price of \$2.00 per bushel during a five year period. If any of the importing countries find difficulty in buying wheat at \$2.00 per bushel they may call upon the Wheat Council for assistance, which body would then direct

Commentary

Canada to make available up to 230,000,000 bushels of wheat at no more than such a price. How important that concession will be cannot yet be forecast. During the current year Canada has sold some wheat for export at prices ranging from \$2.60 to \$3.40 per bushel, and could have sold more had more been available.

What About Intermediate Prices?

It is to be noted that the agreement calls for definite action only at maximum and at minimum prices. Importing countries have the option to demand from exporting countries 500,000,000 bushels of wheat at \$2.00 per bushel. They may not choose to exercise that option, that is, they may think they could get wheat from Argentina, from Russia, or from Eastern Europe, at less than \$2.00 per bushel. If the importing countries do not exercise their option then the exporting countries have an option to demand that purchases be made at the minimum prices. What happens between those levels? To that question no answer can be found in the terms of the agreement. It could be that transactions between the signing countries could take place only at the maximum or at the minimum prices. Or it may be that in the ordinary processes of bargaining and marketing prices may fluctuate between maximum and minimum levels.

Will The United States Ratify?

As mentioned above, there is some doubt as to whether or not Congress of the United States will ratify the agreement. Refusal by any of the major countries to ratify the agreement would bring the matter to an end. It can, however, be taken for granted that under prevailing systems of parliamentary government the agreement will be ratified by Canada, by Australia, and by Great Britain, and it is also probable that most other importing countries will ratify. Doubt with respect to the United States exists, for one reason because farmers in that country have never been much concerned about the agreement and have paid very little attention to negotiations in progress. They have been accustomed to much higher prices for wheat than have been received by Canadian farmers and, in fact, their guaranteed minimum return is at present above the \$2.00 level. They may see in the agreement a threat to their own price structure. Congress is not committed to support the action of the government to the same extent that parliaments of the British countries are committed. Another possible objection arises from the fact that there is no thought of closing the markets in the United States and establishing a government wheat monopoly such as exists in Canada. It could be, therefore, that to carry out its obligations under the Agreement the United States Government would have to go into the markets and buy export wheat at more than the \$2.00 level and would sell it at a loss.

The Position Of Other Exporters

Argentina, Russia, and the exporting countries of Eastern Europe, including Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, are not parties to the agreement. They will be unable to sell wheat to the importing countries which have signed, so long as Canada, the United States and Australia wish to sell at minimum prices, and the export quotas for those countries remain unfilled. The agreement, however, only applies to a total of 500 million bushels and these other exporters may find markets for additional quantities in the signa-

tory countries, and also in a number of countries which have not signed the agreement. It must be admitted that the agreement has some appearance of attempting to crowd these other countries out of international wheat trade and it is difficult to forecast what their reactions to the operation of the agreement may be. The way is left open for them also to join if they can come to terms with the countries which have already signed the agreement.

Effect On The Canada-United Kingdom Wheat Agreement

One puzzle yet unsolved is the effect of the new International Agreement upon the contract between Canada and the United Kingdom, which runs concurrently for the first two years of the general international agreement. The governments of Canada and the United Kingdom have already agreed on a price of \$2.00 per bushel to apply to 140 million bushels of wheat which Canada is to sell to the United Kingdom in 1948-49. Certainly Canada will not want to alter \$2.00, as that is the maximum price which could be obtained from any other country. Conceivably the United Kingdom might want to alter that in view of the possibility of its attaining wheat elsewhere at a lower price. Any change, however, in that respect is highly unlikely. The real problem exists with respect to 140 million bushels to be supplied by Canada to the United Kingdom during the crop year 1948-49. Up to the present, for that year, the expectation has been held out in Canada that a fairly high price might be negotiated to compensate Canada for the comparatively low prices which prevailed under the contract during the first three years of the agreement. It is now quite unlikely that Canada can expect Great Britain to pay more than \$2.00 per bushel during that year, no matter what losses may be calculated as having occurred to Canadian producers during the early years of the contract. On the other hand, the United Kingdom may be able to put forward good arguments as to why the price in 1949-50 should be dropped somewhere nearer to \$1.40, the minimum price for that year, under the International Agreement. That problem has to be settled some time during 1948, but quite probably will be left for settlement until late in the year.

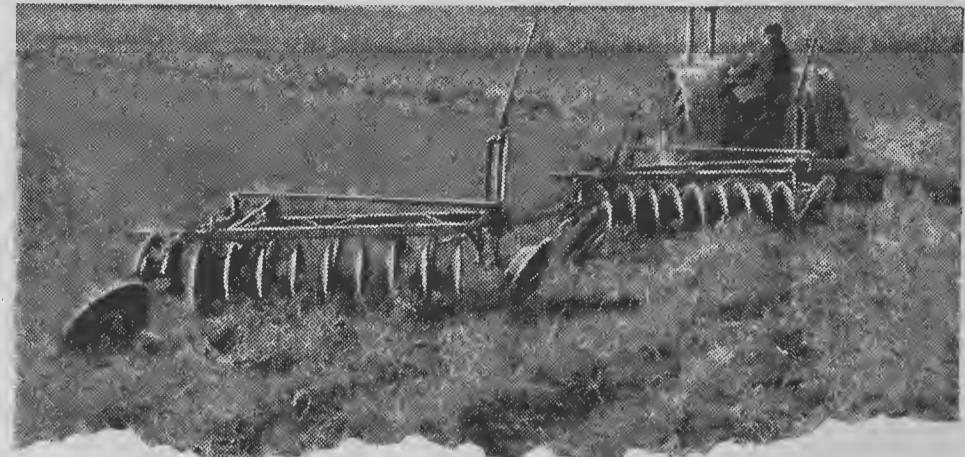
Allotments To Exporting Countries

Under the agreement, Canada's quota of the 500 million bushels covered by the agreement is 230 million bushels, that of the United States 185 million bushels, and that of Australia 85 million bushels. It is interesting to contrast these with the allotments contained in the London Wheat Agreement of 1933—the one which failed when Argentina refused to abide by its provisions. In that agreement out of a total of 560 million bushels there were allotted to Canada 200 million, to Argentina 110 million, to the United States 47 million, to Australia 105 million and to Russia and other countries 98 million. It will be seen that the quota for the United States has increased from 47 million to 185 million bushels or from less than 25 per cent of the Canadian quota to more than 80 per cent. The United States, because of the time at which the agreement was made, and the fact that it has lately been the world's principal wheat exporter, was able to assert its right to a very large share of international business. That fact probably constitutes the least desirable feature of the agreement from the standpoint of Canada.

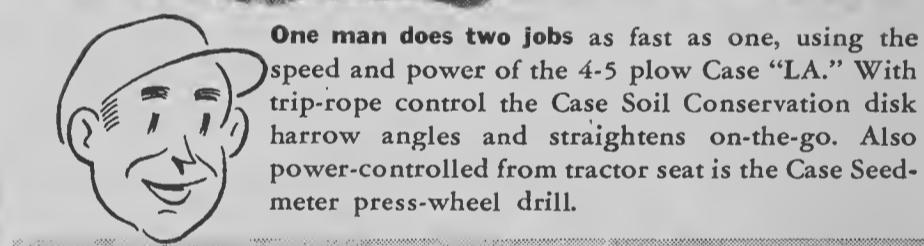
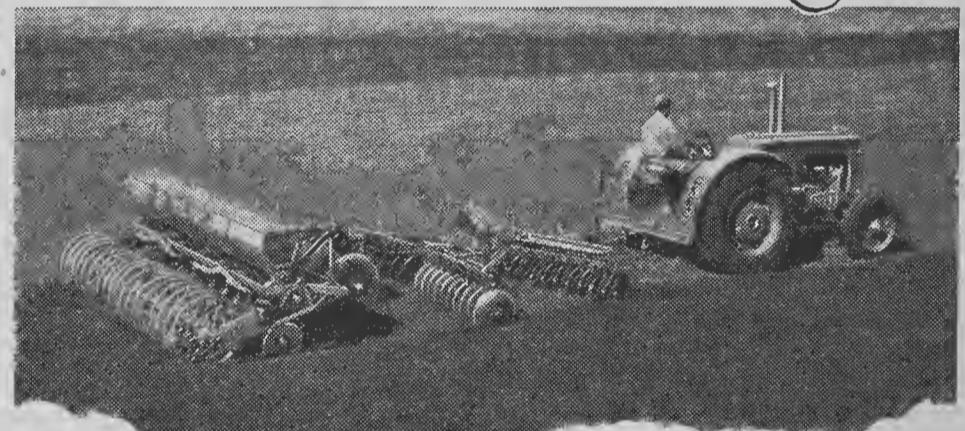
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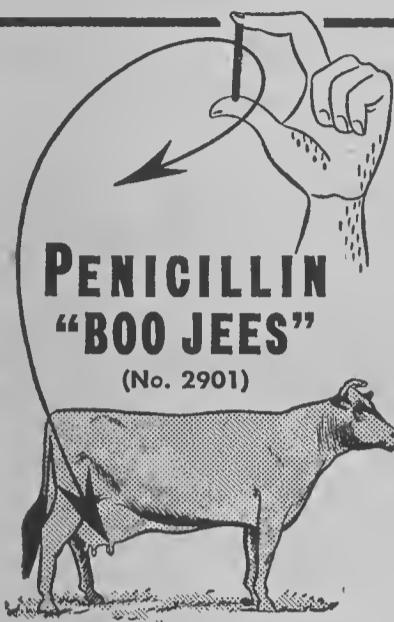
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From Black to Red

**British Columbia's new Premier finds the cash box depleted
as a result of inflationary costs**

By CHAS. L. SHAW

WHEN Byron I. Johnson took over the job of administering British Columbia's government at the beginning of the year he inherited more than glory from his predecessor, John Hart. From a survey of the province's financial situation it would seem as though the new premier will, for the first time in half a dozen years, be facing an unpleasantly tough book-balancing assignment.

During the war years and immediately thereafter British Columbia rolled up a gratifying series of budget surpluses. With war industry booming and expenditures limited by the various restrictions imposed by wartime conditions, revenues poured into the treasury at Victoria and each year Mr. Hart was able to confront the legislature smilingly to report that everything in a fiscal sense was rosy. It was different this year.

When Premier Johnson appeared in the legislature for the first time in his new role—as a matter of fact, for the first time as even a cabinet member—he had the unenviable task of breaking the sad news that British Columbia faced a seemingly inevitable gap between outgo and income. The reason, which wasn't hard to understand, was the spiral of inflation.

Expenditures on almost every front have skyrocketed during the past year in British Columbia, especially in education and social services. The west coast province has always prided itself on the advances it has made in social service such as pensions, but it is discovering in rather bitter fashion that such things cost a great deal. However, there is no thought of turning back unless retrenchment is absolutely necessary.

However, as this is written, the government is considering the imposition of a sales tax—something that has been tried only once before in British Columbia, with somewhat unsatisfactory results, more than 15 years ago. Any new levy is exceptionally unpalatable these days when there are so many other taxes to pay, and it has been difficult for many people to reconcile the province's outward prosperity and its industrial and business activity with the blunt fact that the government needs more money to carry on business.

Just how the new tax will be applied is still uncertain, but government experts have been studying the adjacent state of Washington's experience with a three per cent sales tax which is bringing in an estimated \$70,000,000 this year. Such prospects are naturally inviting to tax collectors and to governments in need of re-stocking their treasury. A similar tax in British Columbia, theoretically, would account for some \$15,000,000.

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S financial plight stems not only from rising costs of everything but from an apparent inequality in distribution of taxes raised within the province. A year or so ago when Premier Hart went to Ottawa to make a new financial deal with Ottawa he worked out a plan whereby the province would continue to surrender its income and corporation taxes and succession duties to the federal government in return for an annual grant of \$22,000,000. This had all the earmarks of a smart bargain at the time, but now it has a very different look, especially inasmuch as Ottawa's total collection

from the sources mentioned is approximately \$140,000,000. Obviously, Premier Johnson feels that one of the first things he should attempt after the close of the present session of the legislature is a new deal with Ottawa. British Columbia, along with most of the other provinces, is beginning to repent its bargain with the federal administration.

Budget troubles will therefore dominate the current session of the house at Victoria. But there will be many other issues, too. Members of the legislature are asking why the government has not made more of an effort to collect additional funds from the unprecedentedly prosperous forest industries. One big lumber company recently reported a net profit for last year amounting to more than \$7,000,000. Another had a net of more than \$3,000,000; a third, \$2,500,000. And so on.

No one wants to impede these forest operations because they have always been the mainstay of the province's economy, and nothing could be more ruinous for British Columbia than a depressed lumber and pulp and paper industry. So far as forest taxation is concerned, the unequal split between province and Dominion is again apparent, because Ottawa, which pays little or nothing for forest management, still skims the cream of forest revenue and leaves the milk for the province.

THERE has also been some criticism of the British Columbia government's new forest management program designed to perpetuate the timber indus-

The old controversy about the rights of Japanese is also likely to be dealt with, and while it seemed probable that Japanese would be given the vote this year, as were Chinese and East Indians last year, action of the federal legislators in shelving for the time being the post-war emergency measures affecting Japanese did not further this move. Ottawa decided, in deference to a determined group of British Columbia members, to continue the prohibition against Japanese in the coastal district. At least for another year it will be illegal for Japanese to return to the coast except with special permits. However, they have been released from a few minor restrictions that were left over from the war period. They can, for instance, make long distance telephone calls without supervision, and they can make short trips without telling officials about it.

FOR the first time in months, there was little news on the Doukhobor front—no dynamiting, fires or nude parades. But from the new Doukhobor colony at Hilliers on Vancouver Island came a report which only confirmed the judgment of half a century—that the Doukhobors are a peculiar people. The patriarch of the Hilliers colony has issued a proclamation against babies. He declares that there are already too many for comfort and that, until further notice, Doukhobor women must obey the rules. For other residents of Vancouver Island who have been anything but enthusiastic about the incursion of Doukhobors and dreaded a swift increase in the colony's population this was comforting.

Peace River came into the spotlight again with the announcement by a Vancouver financial group that a 650-mile natural gas pipeline is contemplated. Wells will be driven in the Peace River country where gas prospects are most favorable and if developments warrant construction of the pipeline will be initiated. It would be a costly project—\$40,000,000 is the estimate—but the best guarantee is the fact that the sponsors are all reputable and wealthy men, such as Colonel Victor Spencer, Frank Ross, Senator J. W. de B. Farris, K.C., to mention only a few.

WITH all the talk of inflation, perhaps the Kamloops bull sale gave the first vague hint of a turning point. Prices were definitely lower than in other recent years. The grand champion bull was sold for only \$900, and only one bull sold for more than that. Bulls that would have brought \$1,500 last spring were disposed of for \$500 or even \$250. Steers sold for an average of two cents lower per pound at an average of \$16.60 a hundredweight, compared with last year's average of \$18.05. Percy French of Vernon sold his prize bull Kilearn Norseman 35th for \$370. He bought the animal last year for \$1,000.

But ranchers and farmers were hoping that the result of the bull sale was not too accurate an indication of the trend, for they have found that their costs of operation are no less than they used to be, and their prices for produce must conform. However, it would seem as though competition is becoming an important factor again in agriculture and livestock just as in other markets and that the only safe way to meet it is through specialization and steady improvement in quality of the product.



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tries by regulating cut according to growth. The principle of the measure is unchallenged, but small operators in the industry feel that the plan as at present constituted will encourage and perpetuate monopolies inasmuch as it will turn over large areas of forest land to the big companies which can afford long-term operation. The small operators declare they have no objection to big companies, but they would like to have an opportunity to grow big, too, and they cannot see such an opportunity if the biggest and best tracts of timber are placed forever in the hands of a few big corporations. This is just one of the complicated subjects that will be disposed of by the legislators this spring.



THE MAN on the tractor is CHAMPION FARMER Alex L. Black of Guelph, Ontario. On his large farm he specializes in pure bred Durham and Holstein cattle for milk and beef. As a plowman he has won many prizes at the International Plowing Matches . . . on Firestone Ground Grips. Today he farms with the *new* Firestone Champion Ground Grips—with the Curved Traction Bars. Read his own words regarding the performance of these revolutionary Tractor Tires.

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"The mud seemed to squeeze out of the sides or drop out when the tread left the ground. *I am quite satisfied that I could not have plowed that field without Firestone Champions.*"

(Signed) ALEX L. BLACK

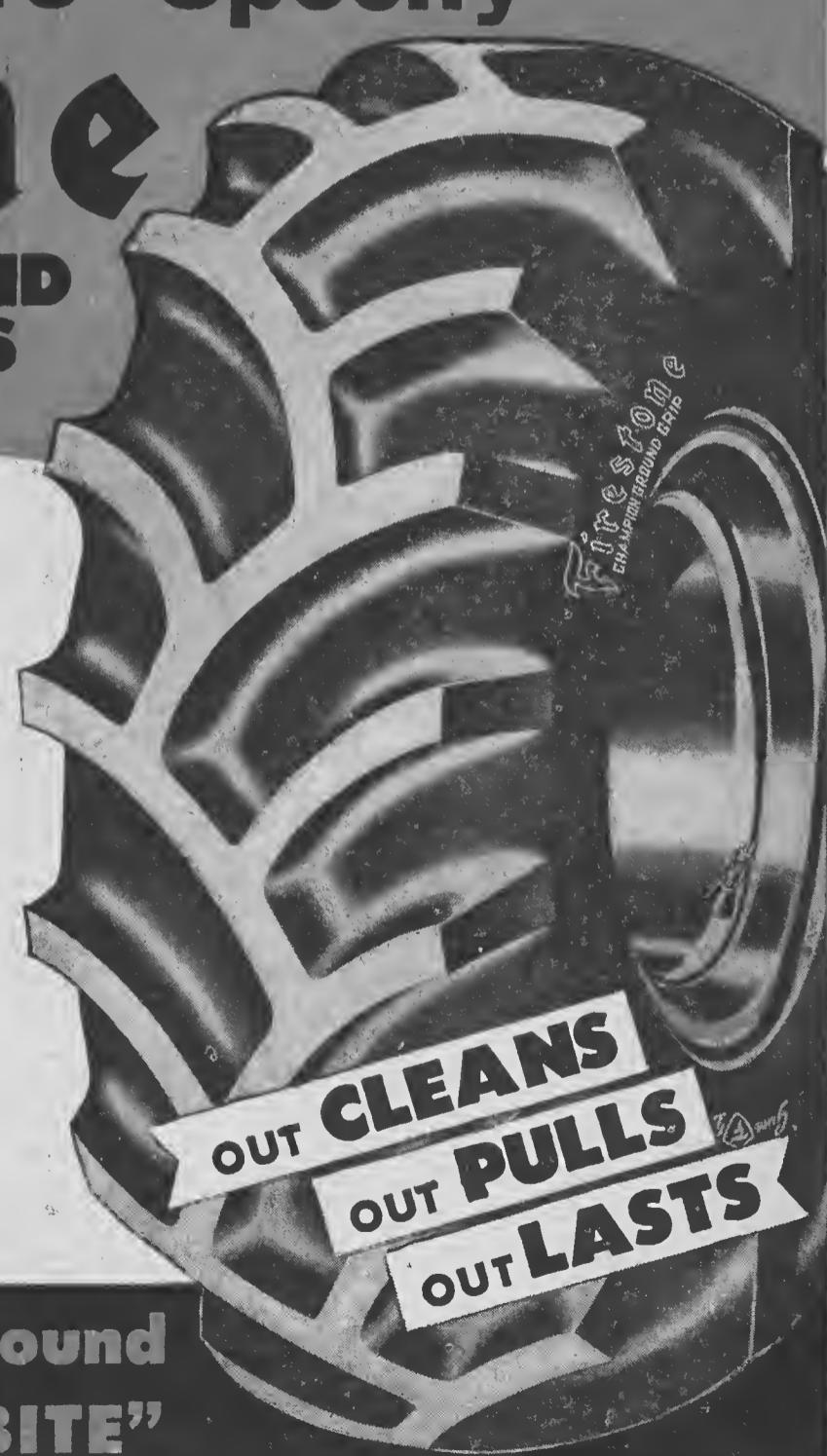
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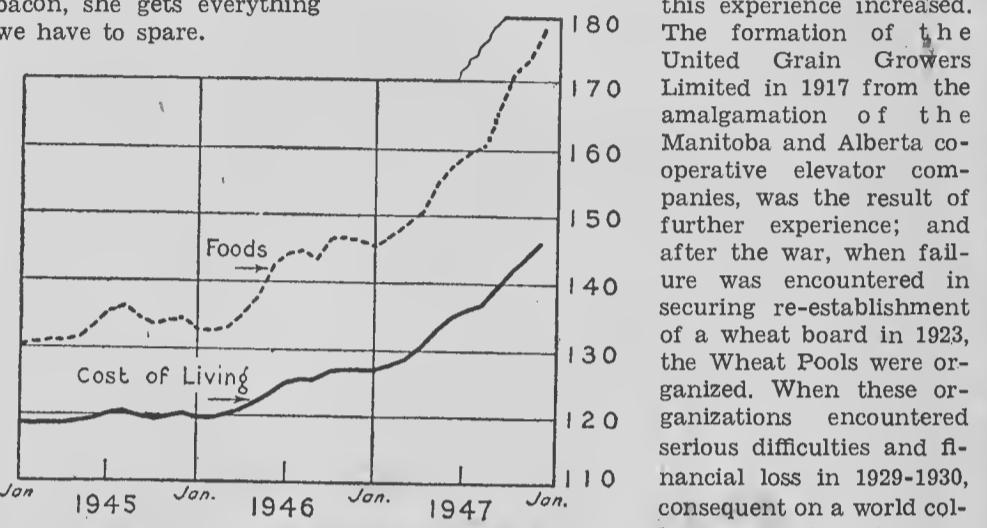
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B.F. Goodrich
FOOTWEAR

WHEAT--KEY TO FARM CONTROLS

Continued from page 7

condensed and evaporated milk. Before the war we shipped these products, especially wheat, to many different countries. During the war and since, we have been more prosperous and have eaten more of everything ourselves. In spite of this, however, we have had large quantities to spare for other peoples, which have mostly gone to Britain, who has always been, and probably will continue to be for some time to come, our most important customer. At the present time, Britain gets, by government contract, nearly all of our surplus foods; and of beef, cheese, eggs and bacon, she gets everything we have to spare.



THE key to all this government business, as far as the Canadian farmer is concerned, is wheat. Suppose we examine the wheat problem briefly. For long years the Canadian wheat producer has desired a greater measure of stability in wheat prices than the open market frequently provided. He knew that his wheat retained the same value for a considerable time after it was harvested, at least until the crop of some other country came on the market and increased the supply. What he found was, however, that the price sometimes fluctuated widely, in spite of the relatively constant value of wheat. It seemed to fluctuate without rhyme or reason, and the speculator was blamed. The grain exchanges, on the other hand, whose members are specialists in the buying and selling of grain, have always claimed that the only really fair price for a product is fixed by the continuous buying and selling of that product by large numbers of people; and since the exchanges furnish a meeting place for both buyer and seller, which is in operation day after day throughout the year, under strict rules of conduct, they believed that they really furnished the nearest possible approximation of price to value, obtainable by any method.

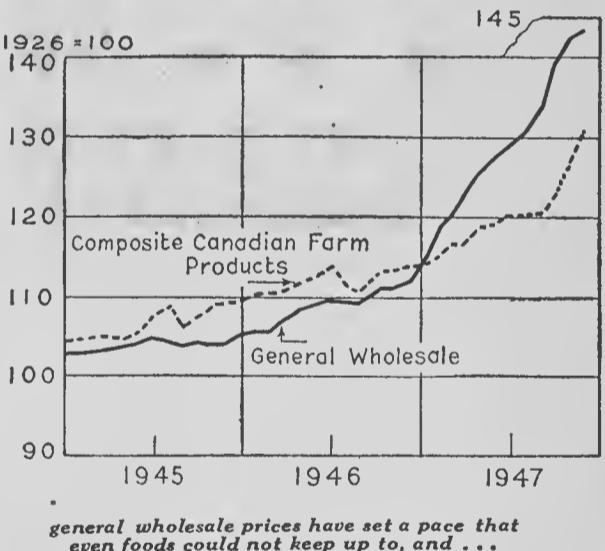
Large numbers of farmers, however, have never been much impressed by the operations of the exchanges. Consequently, when the Board of Grain Supervisors was set up in June, 1917, as a monopoly board to take over all the wheat produced in Canada, and distribute it for domestic use and for Allied account, and when the Board paid \$2.40 basis No. 1 Northern, Fort William, for the balance of the 1916 crop, \$2.21 for the 1917 crop, and \$2.24½ for the 1918 crop, farmers were better satisfied. Trading on the exchange was eliminated from September 1, 1917 to

July 21, 1919. When, during the 1919-1920 crop year, the Canadian Wheat Board was established, and paid an initial payment of only \$2.15, in addition to a participation certificate, many farmers attached little value to the certificates, and were disappointed. When, however, two further payments totalling 48 cents were made, bringing the total price for the 1919 crop to \$2.63 per bushel, the producer was satisfied, even though it was never established that the Board itself was responsible for a higher price than the exchange would have secured.

Many years before, when, in 1905, the Grain Growers' Grain Company was formed, western grain producers began to acquire experience in co-operative marketing. Later, with the organization of the Alberta Co-operative Elevator Company and the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company,

this experience increased. The formation of the United Grain Growers Limited in 1917 from the amalgamation of the Manitoba and Alberta co-operative elevator companies, was the result of further experience; and after the war, when failure was encountered in securing re-establishment of a wheat board in 1923, the Wheat Pools were organized. When these organizations encountered serious difficulties and financial loss in 1929-1930, consequent on a world collapse of trade and prices, the Government of Canada took over the Wheat

Pool stocks and for a considerable time attempted, without much success, to stabilize prices by extensive purchases.



Between November, 1930, and December, 1935, stocks of wheat held for the government increased from 37 million bushels to 205 million bushels.

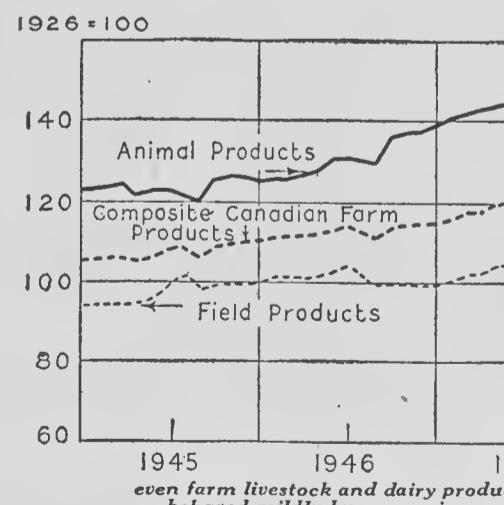
EARLY in 1935 the government decided to introduce a Wheat Board Bill, and the subsequent Act came into effect on July 5, 1935. By this Act, it became the duty of the Canadian Wheat Board which was then appointed, "to sell and dispose of, from time to time, all wheat which the Board may acquire, for such price as it may consider reasonable, with the object of promoting the sale and use of Canadian wheat in the world market," and, "to offer continuously wheat for sale in the markets of the world through the established channels." The Board continued to operate year after year. Though accountable to and obliged by the Act to report weekly to the Minister of Trade and Commerce, thousands of wheat growers in the prairie provinces considered the Board as their organization, operating primarily in their interest, as a body of experienced wheat salesmen. From time to time the

government authorized pegged prices, or floors, ranging from 70 to 90 cents per bushel, as a protection against a recurrence of ruinous prices. In September, 1943, the government took over existing wheat stocks in Canada as "Crown" wheat, and closed the futures market on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange in order to prevent wheat prices from going higher, and raised the fixed initial price to \$1.25 per bushel. The government thus became the owner of 299,700,000 bushels of Canadian wheat, which was used later for Mutual Aid purposes and to supply the domestic market. The supply of Crown wheat was exhausted January 16, 1945, after which the Board purchased wheat for Crown account at higher prices for purposes of Mutual Aid, which finally ceased September 1, 1945.

When the Crown took over all unsold cash wheat in Canada, the market price was around \$1.25 per bushel. The daily Wheat Board offering price rose slowly and steadily thereafter until it reached \$1.50 in April, May and June. On June 10 a decline of 14 cents was begun, which lasted until mid-August, after which the price gradually rose until it reached \$1.55 on May 15, 1945, where it remained until September 19. On that date the Dominion Government announced that Canadian wheat would be offered for export to any country at a price not exceeding \$1.55, and, at the same time, announced a floor price of \$1.00 per bushel for No. 1 Northern, basis Fort William-Port Arthur, or Vancouver, on authorized deliveries for each crop year up to July 31, 1950. Wheat, therefore, continued to be sold by the Canadian Wheat Board at \$1.55 for export throughout the entire 1945-1946 crop year, during which time world prices continued upward, though Canadian producers were deprived of any advantage from them.

PRODUCERS generally were still anxious for stabilized prices, over a term of years, if possible. They favored a higher floor price at around \$1.35. Subsequently, on July 24, 1946, the government through the Minister of Agriculture, Rt. Hon. James G. Gardiner, concluded a four-year agreement with Britain, known as the Canada-United Kingdom Wheat Agreement, for a total of 600 million bushels, the price to be \$1.55, basis No. 1 Northern, for the first two years, and the quantity to be 160 million bushels for each of the first two years. For the third year, a minimum price only was established, of \$1.25, and for the fourth year a minimum price of \$1.00 was fixed, the quantities in each of the last two years to be 140 million bushels.

As to actual prices covering the last



two years of the contract, the agreement states: "In determining the prices for these two crop years, 1948-1949 and 1949-1950, the United Kingdom Government will have regard to any difference between the prices paid under this agreement in the 1946-47 and 1947-1948 crop years, and the world

prices for wheat in the 1946-1947 and 1947-1948 crop years." On July 30, 1946, the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, Minister of Trade and Commerce, stated in the House of Commons that, "In sales to non-contract countries, a serious effort will be made to sell at prices roughly corresponding to those of the other principal supplier — now, the United States."

The Wheat Board immediately priced Class II wheat (export wheat other than to Britain) at \$2.05 per bushel, the high price of the year being reached on March 14, 1947, at \$3.10. By July 31, the price had dropped to \$2.56; and the simple average of daily quotations for the entire crop year was \$2.44. The Class II price for the present crop year, 1947-1948, has been considerably higher, the simple average for the period August 1 to February 29, reaching \$3.06.

The Agreement provided that the price for the 1948 crop should be negotiated not later than November 30, 1947. A price of \$2.00 per bushel was announced by Prime Minister MacKenzie King on October 1. In making the announcement, the Prime Minister said: "In the negotiations which took place in the past month, both parties recognized the obligations . . . which require that in setting the price to be paid in the last two years of the agreement period, regard should be had to the difference in the first two years, between the world price and the agreement price.

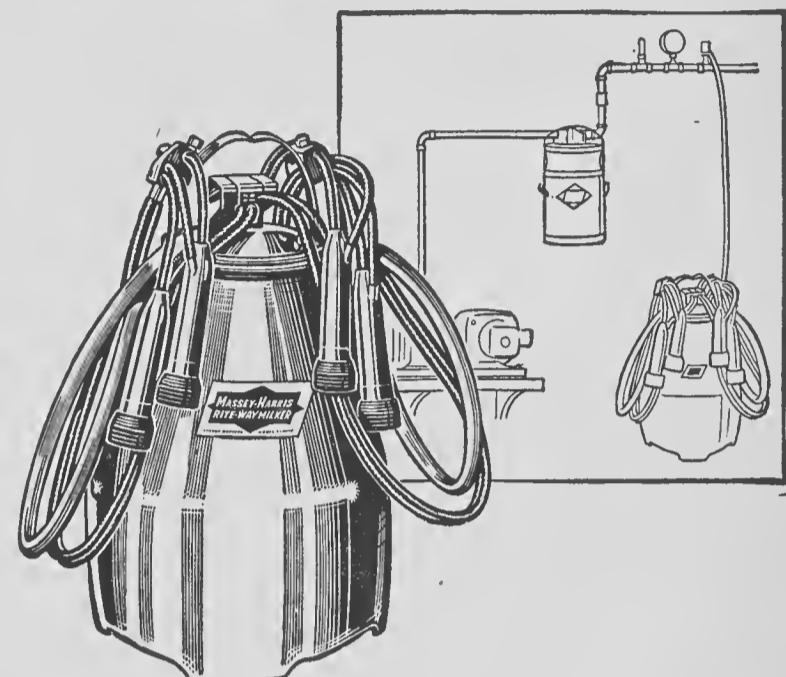
Having in mind the magnitude of the agreement and the long-term security which it provides, a precise arithmetical calculation of the differences in price was not suggested.

The government is satisfied that the considerations which have prompted the United Kingdom Government to offer, and the Canadian Government to accept, the price of \$2.00 a bushel for 1948-1949, will apply fully and in the same spirit in the negotiations for the settlement of the prices to be paid in 1949."

THESE, then, are some of the facts about the Wheat Agreement. Some controversy had arisen over what is referred to in the Act as "the world prices for wheat in the 1946-1947 and 1947-1948 crop year." Note that it does not say "world price" but "the world prices." Argument has been advanced that there is no such thing as a world price under present disturbed conditions. There certainly is no generally accepted, single, world price. However, for the first year of the Agreement, 1946-1947, world shipments of wheat and rye amounted to 20.7 million long tons, of which the United States supplied 10.8 million, and Canada 6.2 million tons, or combined shipments by the two chief exporting countries, of 17 out of 20 million tons. For the present crop year, export supplies are estimated to amount to 24.4 million long tons, of which it is estimated the United States will supply 12.1 million and Canada 5.7 million tons, a combined total of 17.8 million tons out of 24.4 million tons.

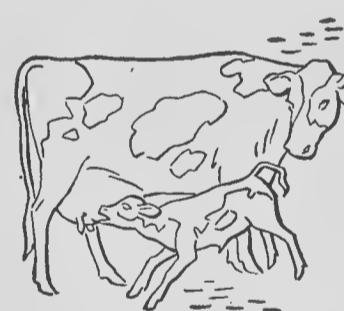
The experience of these two years would seem to indicate that countries accounting for more than two-thirds of the world's export supplies of wheat could well be taken as setting a fair world price; and since, by the statement already quoted, the Canadian Wheat Board follows the United States prices in shipping Class II wheat to non-contract countries, it would seem reasonable to suppose that the average of prices received by the Canadian Wheat Board for Class II wheat would rep-

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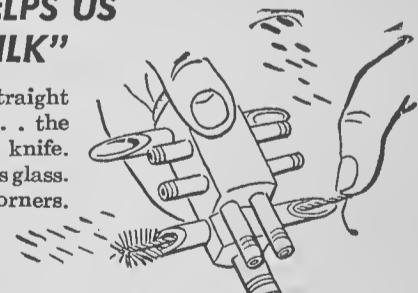


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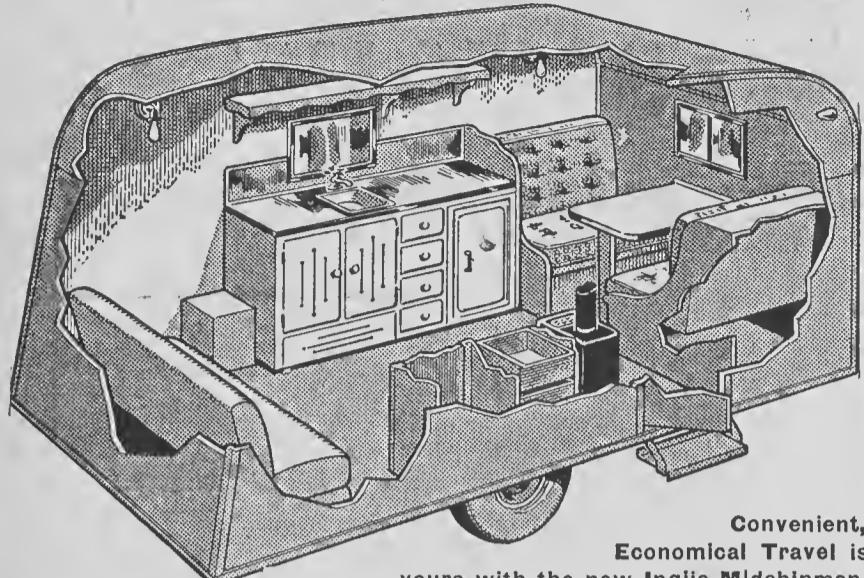


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resent a close approximation to a real world price, if such a one could be calculated. Allowances are necessary for differences in market values of wheat from different countries, based on milling and baking characteristics. In any case the actual world price would probably not be lower than the Canadian Wheat Board average. Australia recently entered into a contract with the United Kingdom for the sale of 80 million bushels of Australian wheat at \$2.72 per bushel. It has frequently been reported that Argentina has sold wheat for export at prices ranging between \$4.00 and \$5.00.

It has been contended in some quarters that these high international wheat prices are entirely abnormal, inflationary, and based on the misery of the people of Europe, who are forced to pay any price in order to get a share of the limited supplies available. They are, nevertheless, based on demand for wheat. In all probability they have been below the prices that would have existed at times, were it not for action taken by the governments of several exporting countries to keep down the prices for domestic consumption. Furthermore, it may be argued that they are prices which importing countries have, until recently, seemed to prefer to an international agreement designed to stabilize wheat prices for a period of years, at levels substantially lower than current world prices.

It seems clear enough that, in some respects, Canada has made a bad bargain with Britain. Based on the nearest approximation we can make to what are "the world prices," the \$2.00 price agreed on for the 1948 crop will fail even to make good the "loss" on even the first year of the contract period. It is true that on December 13, 1946, the Minister of Agriculture said in Montreal:

"I personally discussed matters with the British officials and their Minister. They are agreed that we are entitled to have possible losses in the first two years made up in the last two. They have so stated in the contract."

Again, speaking in the House of Commons on March 13, 1947, the Minister is reported (unrevised Hansard) as stating:

"Honorable members know what has been stated on previous occasions, namely, that the British have agreed that there shall be no ceiling on what we may ask for in the last two years (our italics—Ed.); and that the fact that there is no ceiling on what we may ask for in those two years, should be an answer to the question that has been posed."

Notwithstanding these unequivocal statements, it seems almost inconceivable that any Canadian government would ask Britain to make good in one year of the contract the differences in price which will probably have accumulated by July 31, 1949, the end of the third contract crop year. As Europe

recovers, some decrease in price will probably take place from present high levels, but the amount is impossible to forecast. It is hardly likely that the British economy will have recovered sufficiently to enable her to pay high prices with any ease. It is possible that the Marshall Plan will have become effective in releasing a substantial amount of American dollars to Britain and to Canada, so that higher prices will be easier to negotiate. If this were true, it would be a very lucky break for the Canadian government.

The facts, however, seem to indicate that shortages of fertilizer, seed and labor in Europe will make a return to pre-war average in wheat yields unlikely for several years. In eastern Europe, land has been cut up into small units which, judging from experience after World War I, will affect grain yields adversely. National boundaries have changed, and shifts in population have, for the time being at any rate, left suitable areas of good land wholly or partially uncultivated.

Other factors tending to keep prices relatively high are, the probably continued shortage of rice, because the best information available seems to indicate that while rice deficits will lessen, some shortages will exist until 1951. There is also the factor that European farmers are anxious and will continue to be anxious to rehabilitate their livestock, which has had to take second place to human needs until now. This effort will tend to work against the use of cereals for human food and will have its effect on the level of wheat prices.

In the same way, the expanding European population will create more demand for wheat and exert pressure on available wheat supplies. In recent years, the United States has had extremely large wheat crops and the State of Kansas alone has produced more wheat than either Australia or Argentina. Finally, all governments have become more concerned with the proper nutrition of the people in their respective countries, and this also should reflect a firmer demand for food, particularly the cereals, which can be supplied more cheaply than animal products, even at high prices.

The conclusion is, therefore, incapable that whatever the wheat agreement with Britain may be politically, or from a humanitarian standpoint, it was poor economics and bad business. It is even worse for agriculture as an industry, because whatever loss has occurred, or will eventually occur, not only falls directly on a very large group of farmers in the prairie provinces, who are tied to wheat by force of circumstances, but the agreement itself is also the key to other food contracts, which in turn affect Canadian farmers from Vancouver Island to Prince Edward Island.—H. S. F.

(This is the first of two articles on farm price stabilization in Canada. The second will appear in May).

Operation Caterpillar or Get That Worm

D.D.T. has uses other than on commercial crops

By I. A. WILLIAMS

REES are meant to be their loveliest in early summer, but a tree stripped naked of its new leaves and caterpillars crawling over it, is an unsightly mess.

Yet this caterpillar menace could be overcome. Modern science has discovered pest eradicators undreamed of even a few years ago. But until this scientific knowledge is put to work on a large scale by government projects, each property owner must look out for his own.

It's a good idea to know about the

life cycle of the caterpillar. The common miller moth that flies just after dark on summer nights doesn't look much like a caterpillar, but that is just what it is; it's the adult. And when it flutters and bats itself against the lighted windows it is out looking for a handy limb on which to lay its bracelet of eggs. These millars can be destroyed by the hundred, and that should cut down the caterpillar population since each millar destroyed means a few hundred less eggs laid.

One way is to spray the window

screens with DDT, and the moths, bumping against it a few times, drop down dead. A porch light with a treated screen around it is very effective. One spraying lasts about two weeks.

The miller moths that are lucky enough to bump into a tree instead of a screen, lay their circlet of eggs on the branches. If you have fruit trees or shade trees you should watch for these little "rings" of eggs in the spring before the leaves appear. They can be seen then and easily removed with the fingers. This is the easiest way to rid your pet trees of caterpillars. But some of them usually escape the eagle eye. As soon as the tent appears, drench them with the new DDT spray. Use 50 per cent wettable DDT and spray the tent, the branch, and the adjacent leaves. If you find them feeding on trees near yours, spray the leaves with a stomach poison—rotenone.

Nature has her own technique in disposing of these pests. The full-grown caterpillars often have a tiny white thing stuck to their faces or their fur. That is the egg of a flying parasite which flies from one caterpillar to another depositing an egg to each one. These eggs hatch and the little parasite insect eats its way into the worm, destroying it.

These parasites could be bred in scientific laboratories and turned loose on the unsuspecting worms, ridding the country for good of this pillager. Or, spraying the forests and wood lots by airplane as they do for other destructive pests, would also eradicate them.

A full-fledged "Operation Caterpillar" would be much appreciated by people who battle this pest every spring, and also those who travel our highways and see with dismay our poor stripped trees and the ugly crawling worms.

There's Money In Flowers!

It doesn't require nearness to a big city to profit by this suggestion.

By I. A. WILLIAMS

If you enjoy growing flowers you can make your busy green thumb bring in considerable cold cash. Men and women all over the country are finding out that there's money in growing flowers.

They start with their own backyard, and sometimes a hotbed, and grow them for the love of it. Sometimes they become partial to one particular flower and specialize in that. It attracts the attention of friends and strangers, and maybe a florist gets interested, and so they are launched in business. Commercial back-yard flower gardens have been known to spread over a couple of acres.

We read of a woman in Toronto with two acres of dahlias—a business worth a few thousand. And another woman in Victoria with two acres of a variety of flowers, and the florists beating a path to her garden. Still another housewife in Indiana makes good money with just plain pansies. She plants them in little paper cartons, the kind you buy full of oysters, and sells them as house plants. And so it goes. What these people can do, so too, can others, and who couldn't use a little extra cash these days! Your degree of success depends on your market, and your energy and ingenuity.

A market for your new harvest of blooms can usually be found. Any town can absorb a lot of bouquets and floral decorations. The stores and offices like a fresh bouquet once or twice a week, and most people like to brighten their homes with flowers. Steady, satisfied customers mean money in hand.

Good cut flowers in a wide variety are pretty generally popular, and this is a good way to start. One can start with a few good annual cutters while building up a host of perennials that produce flowers yearly with a minimum of work.

A succession of blooms from spring

till frost should be the aim of the flower grower. Wee bouquets of snowdrops and crocuses welcome the spring, followed by daffodils and then tulips. There is a complete succession of flowers on through the summer—daisies, delphinium, sweet peas, cosmos, zinnias, dahlias, gladioli, asters, and many more. Then the early and late chrysanthemums ring down winter's curtain on the show. And don't despise the dried straw flowers and grasses for winter bouquets.

Of course there will be lots of gypsophila and Queen Anne's lace to dress up the stiffer flowers. Some varieties just naturally go together—like sweet peas and gypsophila, white shasta daisies and blue delphinium, white dahlias and calliopsis. The gorgeous combinations are endless.

The much talked-of green thumb is not, after all, a natural talent but an acquired one. The green-thumb man or woman has, of course, a natural love of growing things. But only by practice and study does one acquire a knowledge of how to make them grow.

There are many different sources of garden information. The provincial and federal departments of agriculture stand ready to send you pamphlets on growing anything from bulbs to begonias. The experimental farms are always willing to help out with advice. There are some very helpful radio programs on gardening. Public libraries have useful books on this subject. And lastly, experience itself is the best teacher, especially in the garden.

You will feel a deep satisfaction when you behold the beautiful rainbow colors of the flowers you have grown. But there's more than beauty in flowers, there's money in them!



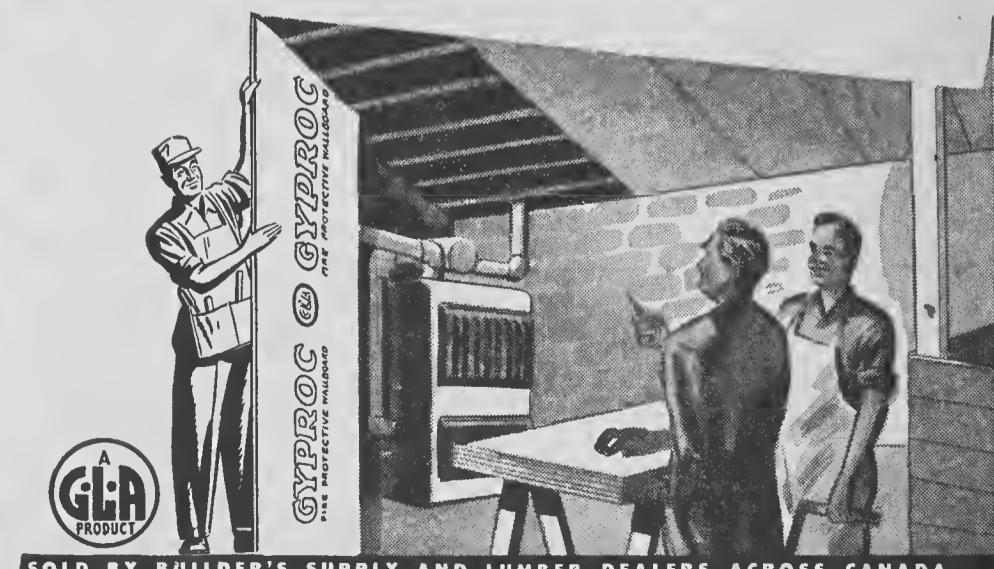
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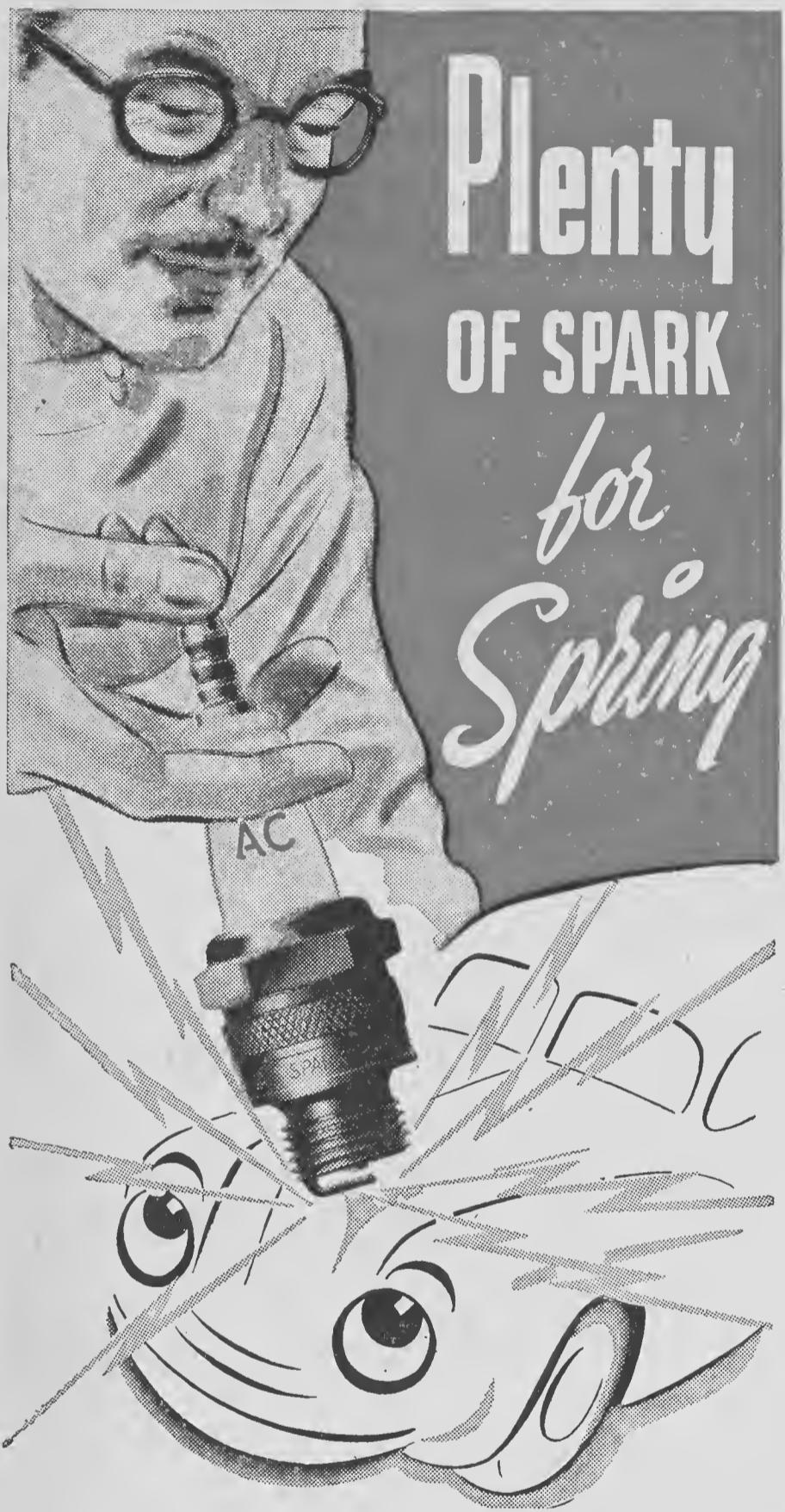
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ROAD TO PERTH

Continued from page 11

soldiers, who have slept these many years under the poppies, were in office in Regina; Frank Mantle as deputy minister of agriculture, and J. C. Smith as livestock commissioner. Government policy had launched them into an expensive bull loaning enterprise. When the business got into deep water they sent urgently for the best bull expert to be found, no other than Smith's room-mate at M.A.C., Charlie Yule. When it came time to sell off some second-hand bulls the trio was joined by "Toby" Norris, auctioneer from Oak Lake, and later Liberal Premier of Manitoba.

IT was a thorough-going partnership. Saskatchewan's floundering bull enterprise was liquidated. Toby Norris completed his livestock education. And Charlie Yule became indoctrinated in a political philosophy which was considered in Winnipeg of that time almost as dangerous as Communism is regarded today. Toby Norris remained a stockman to the end, but Charlie Yule's party faith eventually wore thin. Years later, when his Alberta neighbors offered him a Liberal nomination, it wouldn't stand the strain.

Prior to this experience, Charlie had undergone another inoculation which proved permanently effective. He went to Calgary with the Van Home show herd in 1908 and for the first time saw the promised land for which he never lost his affection. During the depression years he shifted temporarily to a cattle enterprise in California, but after a few months he came back to Alberta to ride out the storm.

By 1914 the newly-converted Albertan had gathered together a Shorthorn herd at Carstairs, 40 miles north of Calgary, which grew in time into one of the largest in Canada, and which was not closed out till 1940. Headed by Craven Knight, it showed at all the leading western fairs as well as many state fairs from the Mississippi west to San Francisco, earning honors everywhere.

As a breeder, Charlie Yule achieved some notable successes. A heifer of his, Countess Selma, sold for \$5,200 at the Dryden sale. This was the highest price paid in Canada up to that time for a Canadian-bred female Shorthorn. Another Yule heifer, Clipper Girl, which got out of Canadian hands for \$3,300, went to Uruguay where she was subsequently sold for \$18,400 in American money. This is believed to be a record still unsurpassed for Scotch bred Shorthorn females.

Looking back on his experiences as a breeder, Charlie Yule volunteers this information: "It gave me a great deal of satisfaction and some profit. But one mistake ran through my whole operations. I was too fond of my cattle. As a consequence I followed the Manitoba and Ontario practice of housing them closely in cold weather. Too closely perhaps, because if they got into the hands of a stockman who went in for the more rugged treatment favored in southern Alberta they did not do so well."

EVEN before he left school Charlie Yule was in demand as a livestock judge. His record as an appraiser of select cattle grew steadily, and he was invited to judge at one state fair after another, as well as every important fair in Canada. At the age of 32 he judged Shorthorns at the great Chicago International, the youngest man who has ever been given that important assignment. Thus before he had reached the biblical halfway mark in life he had achieved two of his three aims set in youth. The third followed closely when he made his first importation from Scotland in 1928. This was a joint importation with Whip Sharp and was sold in Calgary at an average of \$1,005 per animal.

It is natural to suppose that Mr. Yule looks back on his first appearance before a Chicago audience as the most thrilling in his career. But he rates one greater. In 1940 he was elected to judge the fat cattle at the same show. "When I rode home from the post office," he says, "I stopped the car to read the letter of invitation again. Whatever pretensions I may have made as a judge of Shorthorn breeding cattle, I had never posed as an authority on fat beasts. But there was no mistake about the letter. I had been asked to adjudicate at the world's greatest collection of fat cattle in the heart of Packingtown. The kind remarks which came to me at the conclusion of that experience mark that for me as the high point of my judging career."

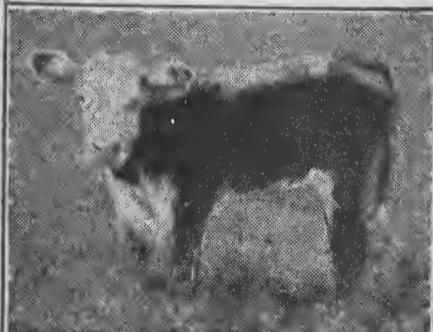
Perth was less of an ordeal than the Chicago fat stock show, for here Yule was moving in his own element. At Perth there were 376 bulls in 12 classes. Their quality may be gauged by the prices received in the following two days' sale—an average of 365 guineas, with a top of 6,000 guineas. Judging at Perth is done on the open cobblestone pavement of the town square, starting at nine in the morning, and finishing at three in the afternoon. "Because of Scotland's lowering February sun?" I asked Charlie. "No, high tea," he replied.

FROM constant contamination by foreigners, Charlie Yule has contracted the habit of chewing cigars. Never does he chew with such grim determination as when he is in the ring judging. Scotsmen marked his idiosyncracy and cari-



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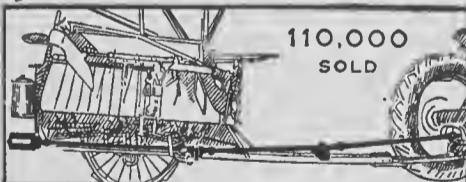
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catured him for it. Nevertheless they liked his judging. Values established at the Perth sale usually bear little relation to the awards in the judging ring for the reason that pedigree, to which the judge pays no attention, is often the determining factor in setting the price. Yet this year's judge had the satisfaction of seeing a fairly close parallel between his ratings and the auctioneers' knockdown price. Twenty-two of the 23 highest priced bulls had been placed in the first five places. Higher praise still was freely given by James Durno, Master of Sittyton, than whom no authority is greater. Durno's letter declares: "The consensus of opinion is that you really did a grand job."

PERTH was an epilogue to success. For Charlie Yule has gradually withdrawn from the ring since 1940. Now he goes no more a-judging. In that year he took over the management of the Calgary Exhibition Association, parent of the Stampede and of the Annual March bull sale in that town. Of the stampede it need only be said that it has grown steadily since 1940 to become the greatest thing of its kind in the world, surpassing the biggest American rodeos in several important respects. It still remains a competition, not a display. Cowhands turn up in greater number than elsewhere to try their bruising luck, and the purses compare with the best. The chuck wagon race at Calgary provides the highest stakes for any race in Canada bar the King's Plate.

The Calgary annual bull sale took in \$100,000 in the first year of Charlie Yule's management. It has climbed steadily to this year's total of \$445,584, helped of course by higher price levels. Only at Denver are more bulls sold, but there the bulls are sold in carload lots. Calgary remains the largest auction block for bulls sold singly.

Size alone provides a poor scale of values. The Calgary bull sale has come to occupy a unique place in the Alberta, and hence the Canadian, cattle industry. The preferences shown by bidders become indelibly clear. They affect the judgment of breeders in fixing type. Witness the changes which have taken place in Hereford and Shorthorn types since the sale was established. It is more than a guess that the prevailing demand for compact, strong, rugged cattle is helped along by the propaganda steadily emanating from Charlie Yule and others who move freely among the ranchers, who in turn, dominate the sale. Apart from the bulls sold in the annual March auction, sales of bulls aggregating \$268,000 for export alone were arranged last fall through Charlie Yule's office.

THE exhibition park which is part of his charge is the centre of many of Calgary's activities. Before the hubbub of the bull auction had died down the provincial hockey playdowns were on. Before the padded warriors were due to reach a decision, Calgarians would be flocking to the park to see Barbara Ann Scott. The Calgary exhibition is more closely integrated to the life of the town than the exhibition of any other western city. Small wonder that the books have shown a million dollar profit in seven years of Charlie Yule's management.

Like a member of a royal family, or a family of clowns, J. Chas. had to pick a wife from a fairly small circle. None but a woman brought up in the Shorthorn faith could have understood his lingo at all times. Consequently in 1928 he married Helen, the charming and talented daughter of W. L. Carlyle, for many years manager of the Duke of Windsor's ranch. Two strapping sons follow them in telling the same tale that Charlie sticks to—that they are fortunate in their choice of parents.

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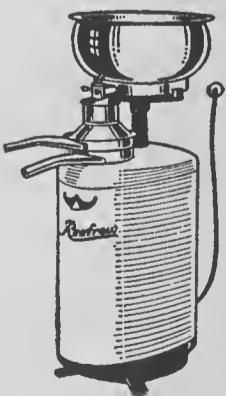
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THE MAN WHO WAIVED THE FLAG

Continued from page 16

night Joe. I think you started it with that Irish flag."

Joe didn't apologize. He said "Older folks don't change much. Once they learn to hate they always hate. But with the kids, it's a little different. There's hope for them. Maybe if folks see things right when they're younger they won't turn into such hating fools when they grow up."

It was late in April when Joe got the lend of the sewing machine again. This time he got a big piece of red stuff and sewed a white cross on it.

Dad kept looking over his shoulder, watching. My old man never was the kind to ask many questions and Joe never was the kind to tell you when you didn't ask, so they just went ahead like that; one of them doing and the other watching. And when it was all hemmed up and a chunk of hay rope sewed in, Dad took a good look and said, "Onward Christian Soldiers."

"Danish," Joe said, biting off a thread. "King Christian died last night. Good man. The Danes are good people."

Next day, up went the Danish flag. Ole Larsen pulled her up and we flew her at half mast and Joe told us how King Christian was the only ruler who defied the Nazis even when his country was overrun; told us a lot of other great things which had come out of Denmark.

I GUESS Miss Harris must have caught on because we studied Denmark in Geography that day. She was a nice teacher Miss Harris, not bad looking either.

But you should have heard Bull Hallatt. The old men down at the store sure got an earful that day. "So it's a Dane he is! Well I knew all along he was some kind of a foreigner! Thought he was Irish at first. Well this is sure going to be looked into! Some people just have to be taught that a flag-pole is a sacred thing. Something our forefathers bought with their blood, sweat and tears!"

I got brave. I said, "There wasn't any flag at all on your old pole before Joe furnished one, Bull."

He spun around like a horse stung with a bee. "No lip from the likes of you! And when you talk to your elders you don't call them by their first name! You 'Bull' me once more and I'll hide the pants right off you!" He turned around to the other tobacco spitters. "That's the trouble with kids nowadays. They don't get no fetching up anymore. No culture!"

One of the men said, "You're telling me, Bull! It's a corker the way kids is now."

Another old farmer with a bark face said, "Well, Bull, you're the man to pry into things. That's what you're trustee for. And the way you're on the inside track with the teacher too—"

That was good for five minutes solid laugh and Bull liked it too.

Bull went up to see Miss Harris that noon and they talked out in the vestibule for a half hour and when class took up I could see she was red in the face and bright in the eyes the way a woman always gets when she's excited. But the flag stayed up till Joe came for us at night and took it down again.

That night when Marvin and I told the folks how Bull had been up worrying Miss Harris about it, Joe looked up from his chop and didn't say anything for a long time. Then he asked Dad if he could have the Hackney after supper. And when he went out to hitch up I caught Dad winking at Mom so I watched which way he went and sure enough he turned in at the farm where Miss Harris boarded.

BUT things were quiet enough for another month or so and we studied away for exams and let our heads get full of summer. Down at the store Bull Hallatt kept shooting off his mouth about subversive elements and what changes he would make in the country if he was Prime Minister, and what changes he would make up at the school next year if he got in for trustee again, and if he got a few of the right kind of men in with him.

One sure thing there wouldn't be any foreigner's kids talking foreign in the school yard at recess time like the board allowed them to do now.

Then one morning when the apple trees were full of flowers and hum and smell and everything at your feet was all new, green and dew, Joe took a Union Jack to school because it was May 23. Empire Day. And we got a little lecture about Britain, the Mother of Democracy. Then along about a week later it was Decoration Day and he ran up a Yank flag he had bought a while before across the border at Fort Fairfield.

I listened hard down at the store both times to hear what Bull would say because I'd heard him say a lot of things about the British before, when there were no British around. He used to call them Limeys and Cockneys and things like that. Guys that came out here to call the rest of us danged Colonials. And I'd heard him say a lot about the Yanks too. How they came slopping over the border to lick up all the good potato ground, making themselves a fortune by being sharp, and all the time beefing about Canadian cigarettes.

But somehow Bull never got going very strong on the British or Americans that month because there were always some of both hanging around down at the store and that cramped his style. Yanks and Britishers got a bad habit of not backing down very easy, especially when they're together.

The blow-up came the last week in June when we were getting ready to start our holidays and were wondering if Miss Harris would be back for another year with us. June 24 was Jean Baptiste Day, the day when the French-Canadians have their big celebration. Up in our section Jean Baptiste Day is really something because the French always try to make it as big as the Twelfth of July at least, and that's a pretty big order.

Sure enough Joe sewed a French tricolor. He let Nappy Garneau do the raising. "Great people the French. Ever read about Voltaire and free speech? Rousseau and the Declaration of the Rights of Man? . . . You ought to read up on that sometime. . . ."

BUT the flag didn't stay long that day. Bull Hallatt came up from the store as soon as he spotted it. He brought four or five others with him and he yanked it down right while we were at recess. Miss Harris came out and tried to stop him but he did it anyhow, laughing when she got sore at him.

I didn't bother going to the store that day. At noon I ran all the way home to tell Joe. I guess I figured I might see a fight or something. I don't know. But all Joe did was to scratch up under his old fedora and kind of smile.

"How about the school kids?" he asked me. "Were they mad about it?"

"Mad? We were all so mad we could have killed him! I thought Ole Larsen was going to take a poke at him!"

Joe smiled more. "Guess there's nothing to get riled up about then, if they feel that way," he said. "It's the feeling that counts, not the flag." And he went back to his hoe.

But I was still hankering for action and that night I got it. Bull Hallatt came in after supper with the same gang that had helped him tear down the flag. "I've come to talk to you about this here damned Communist you've got working for you!" he said to Dad.

I saw Dad look at him straight and with little wrinkles back of his eyes like he gets when he's amused a little bit but not too much. "I think Joe's out at the barn. Want to see him?"

"No. You're the man we want to see." Bull talked very brave, just like Joe said he would when he had men behind him. Bull turned around and pointed to the bunch he had with him. "This is a sort of citizens' committee I guess you'd call it, and we're asking you to get rid of this here man Blanding before there's trouble."

Dad said, "I'm sorry to hear Joe has been in wrong, men, what seems to be the trouble?"

Bull put a thumb in his suspender. "In the first place he's a suspicious sort of fellow. Came to you when the war was on, didn't he? After they started conscription, didn't he? How do you know he isn't a draft dodger? I hate that kind of guys! I fought them all through the war."

Dad said, "Oh, I don't know. He's got a good excuse. He's a little lame you know. And there had to be somebody stay home and farm. You and me for instance."

Bull didn't hear. "Now about this here flag business. That's just a genuine attempt to poison kids' minds and stir up trouble. . . . Talking about Voltaire, wasn't he? Voltaire an atheist! I looked it up last night! . . . And you know what trouble we've always had with the French around here. We've got to keep them in their place or pretty soon we'll all be plowed under and you know it! . . . There's just one kind of patriotism for this here country and that's the kind with one flag to it!"

Dad said, "Well, I'm not much of an authority on deep things like patriotism I guess, but why don't you talk to the teacher about it? She could stop it, couldn't she?"

Bull said, "I'm doing all I can with Miss Harris and I'll do more, but she's young and full of college ideas and there's a lot she's got to learn yet. Just give me time."

Dad straightened up then and the wrinkles went away from his eyes. "Well, I don't know Bull, but I've been thinking maybe Joe's kind of patriotism is a pretty good kind. For kids anyhow. Makes them study geography. And sometimes we can like people a lot better if we only get to know a little more

about them." Then Dad's voice broke off like a whip. It went up a whole octave. "Like it is with me and you Bull. I guess maybe if I knew more about you I might get to liking you! But right now I think you're lower than a snake's belly! And I'm leaving you to go out to the stable for a clean smell!"

BULL backed up and a big foolish look came over him. Dad picked up his milk pails and started off. Then he stopped. "I almost forgot to tell you. It's something about Joe you ought to know. He got that limp at Dieppe. Plate in his leg as big as a harrow tooth. Prisoner, three years, starving while you and I beefed about our big income tax! Joe came to me after the Army couldn't use him any more."

Bull started down the lane. Dad yelled after him. "And you get that French flag back here by tomorrow, or I'm coming down there after it!"

Mom was at the barnyard gate where she had been listening and she was so proud she could hardly hold herself. "But it's your own fault that men like Bull Hallatt get in for trustee," she told him. "Every time they want you to run you'll never do it!"

Two days later it was holidays and that morning when we sat there at breakfast all filled with ideas about what we were going to do, and waiting for Joe to show up so we could pile into our porridge, Dad came in and said, "Well Mom, I've been thinking maybe you were right about that trustee business. Think I'll go down to the school board meeting tonight and see to it that Bull Hallatt doesn't get in again."

He sat down and poured himself the most disgraceful blob of maple syrup for his porridge that I ever saw. He looked at us kids with the wrinkles going back from his eyes again. "Thinking that if I don't, you kids won't be having Miss Harris to teach you next year. I imagine Bull probably wants her fired now."

I couldn't figure that one out. "No," I said. "Why?"

"Because our hired man took her off to town and married her last night. That's why. Didn't you see the flag-pole this morning?"

We ran to the east window and looked way down the road to the school. The flag-pole was hung from top to bottom. The French flag too.

That there is too much danger in the opposite policy does not seem to be borne out by the facts. Take the case of President Roosevelt. Surely nobody ever took the press and therefore the public into his confidence more than he. Yet he was beloved by the common man, feared by the plutocrats, and unbeatable politically. His open policy paid off.

There was a time that the words today used by the Opposition about Star Chamber government were uttered by King himself. But not now. He tells as little as he can, and his ministers take their pattern from him.

What galls those who watch all this is the smug and sure way the government goes about its work. It reminds one of the mother who tells her four-year-old that he's "too young to know such things."

I see in all this confidence, in this Mother Knows Best routine, something far more sinister than any mere clam-like policy. It seems that the government is awfully sure of itself.

This complacency is no sign of strength; it is a harbinger of decay. Hardly a day goes by but what some observer here on Parliament Hill, be he member or otherwise, notes the government going about its business with all the sureness of Louis Quatorze who exclaimed: "The State—it is I!" Translated into modern vernacular, the Liberals are saying: "Canada? That's us."

Well, we'll see. But if this keeps up, I would say: This is the Beginning of the End.

"We'll tell you what's good for you," seems to be their motto.

PEACE TOWER

Continued from page 30

government bureau, for a long time. The Prime Minister admires those who say more rather than those who say less, and admires most of all those who say least. His idea of a perfect privy councillor would be one who was mute.

The newspapers have been going after him pretty hard, and they have not spared his envoys abroad either. We have lost thousands of dollars worth of goodwill by our gag law as applying to ambassadors. We made ourselves a laughing stock more than once in Washington, with more than one envoy, and we'll play the role of Dumb Dora yet again before Mr. King finally moves from his ministry to his memoirs.

BUT this Beginning of the End does not resolve itself merely into whether anyone does, or does not, talk to the press. Mr. King also treats the Commons cavalierly at times. It took Art Smith, aggressive Progressive Conservative from Calgary West, three days of questioning before he could finally get the government to admit that it was conducting a Red Purge. That it was the public's business, to know, or that the government had not the right to deny parliament this information, never crossed the government's mind.

"We'll tell you what's good for you," seems to be their motto.

How about a piece o' pie?

CANNED CHERRY PIE

1 (8-inch) pie shell, baked
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon cornstarch
2 tablespoons granulated sugar
1 cup fruit syrup
2 teaspoons butter
1/2 teaspoon almond extract
2 cups drained canned cherries

Prepare and bake pastry shell and cut-outs for top. Combine salt, cornstarch and sugar in saucepan. Add fruit syrup slowly. Cook

over direct heat, stirring constantly, until thick. Add butter and almond extract then gently fold fruit into sauce. Allow mixture to cool. Pour into baked pastry shell. Place pastry cut-outs on top.

NOTE: If desired, cooled cherry filling may be put into an unbaked pie shell and covered with pastry. Bake at 450 degrees F. for 10 minutes. Reduce temperature to 350 degrees F. and bake for 20 minutes longer.



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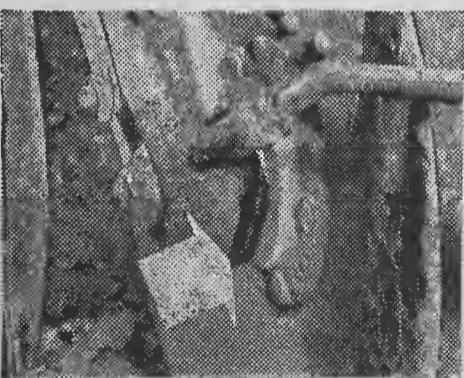
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International Agreement on Wheat

Thirty-six countries pledge themselves to stabilize prices over a five-year period

A FIVE-YEAR international wheat agreement was arrived at in Washington after more than five weeks of discussions, and announced on March 6. Three exporting countries and 33 importing countries participated in the discussions, which took place at a special session of the International Wheat Council called for the purpose, to meet January 28 and presided over by Chairman Leslie A. Wheeler, of the United States.

The agreement was open for signature by countries participating in the negotiations, during the period March 6 to April 1. It was to be signed in the English or in the French language in Washington, at the U.S. State Department. It becomes effective as to wheat transactions on August 1, 1948, but it will be in effect administratively on July 1, 1948, in order to allow the new International Wheat Council, to be created under the Act, to meet early in July and work out administrative procedure. The first meeting of the newly-

the five years covered by the agreement. This was a necessary part of the agreement in order that exporting countries might be guaranteed sales for each of the five years, equal to the quantities which they in turn guarantee to supply.

ANY country signatory to the agreement may trade in wheat at prices above the ceiling or below the floor, provided it fulfills its obligations under the agreement. In other words, during the coming crop year, if Canada has 250 million bushels of wheat to export, she must supply to the importing countries signing the agreement, 230 million bushels at prices ranging between \$1.50 and \$2.00 per bushel. She may, however, sell the remaining 20 million bushels at more than \$2.00 per bushel or less than \$1.50 per bushel, without violating the agreement. Similarly, the United States and Australia, who guarantee to sell 185 million bushels and 85 million bushels respectively, may do likewise. Also, any importing country which guarantees to



On behalf of Canada (later ratified by Parliament) Dr. C. F. Wilson, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, signs the International Wheat Agreement at Washington, with other Canadian representatives: W. C. McNamara, J. H. Wesson, C. C. Boxer (Canadian Wheat Board, Washington representative), Paul Farnalls, F. L. Arnold, and G. W. Robertson, kibitzing.

created International Wheat Council will be convened by the United States Government.

The basis of the international agreement lies in the undertaking of the three exporting countries (Canada, the United States and Australia), to sell, and the remaining 33 importing countries to buy, a combined total of 500 million bushels of wheat in each of the five crop years ending in 1952-1953. Fixed prices are not established by the Agreement for any year, or for any country, except as to ceilings and floors. For each of the five years of the agreement, the ceiling price will be \$2.00 per bushel, basis Canadian One Northern wheat at Fort William or Port Arthur. The basic minimum or floor price will be \$1.50 per bushel for the crop year 1948-1949; \$1.40 for 1949-1950; \$1.30 for 1950-1951; \$1.20 for 1951-1952, and \$1.10 per bushel for the final crop year of the five year period, 1952-1953. Payment will be based on Canadian currency at the parity for the Canadian dollar, determined for the purposes of the International Monetary Fund as at February 1, 1948.

Each importing country that is signatory to the agreement, guarantees to buy equal amounts of wheat in each of

pay from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per bushel for wheat of the 1948 crop, may pay any price it likes above the ceiling or below the floor, for any additional quantities it may wish to purchase.

As long as governments fulfill their obligations under the agreement, the contracts between them under the terms of the agreement may be made and the negotiations conducted in whatever manner they wish. Sales may be made by private trade or by government institutions. Each of the 36 signatory governments reserves to itself complete liberty of action in arriving at and administering internal agricultural and price policies. They undertake, however, not to operate such policies in such a way as to impede the free movement of prices between the maximum and the minimum prices established by the agreement. It is provided that in cases of disagreement between two contracting parties as to price arrangement, or payment for wheat moving under the agreement, all questions of dispute shall be referred to the International Wheat Council, on which each party signatory to the agreement shall be represented by a voting member.

The agreement also provides means for taking care of greatly altered and

unforeseeable conditions. The Council may determine different minimum and maximum prices for the third, fourth and fifth years of the agreement, than those enumerated above. In no case, however, may the maximum price be increased above \$2.00 per bushel, nor may the new minimum price be fixed below the minimum price agreed on for that year; and in any case where changes are made in either the maximum or the minimum price for the year under consideration, it must be done by a two-thirds majority in each group of countries, namely the exporting and the importing countries, voting separately.

Should any circumstance arise which in the opinion of the Council (representing all countries affected), threatens to adversely affect the operation of the agreement, a simple majority of votes in the Council will be sufficient to authorize recommendation of an amendment of the agreement to the contracting governments. When enough governments have accepted the amendment to represent a simple majority of the importing countries (which majority must include the United Kingdom), and the governments of all three exporting countries, the amendment will become effective.

The agreement likewise provides that if any country does not formally accept the agreement or for any reason withdraws from it, or is declared in default of the agreement, the quantity of wheat for which it was responsible shall be re-allocated by the Council by a method of distribution which the agreement provides.

THE 33 importing countries which pledged themselves "to co-operate to bring order into the international wheat market" and agreed "that the high prices resulting from the present shortage and the low prices that will result from a future surplus are harmful to their interests, whether they are producers or consumers of wheat," are as follows (in order of the size of their commitments, the quantity for each country in thousands of metric tons being given immediately following the name of each country):

United Kingdom (4,897), Italy (1,000), French Union (and Saar) (975), Netherlands (835), India (750), Belgium (650), Brazil (525), Austria (510), Greece (510), China (400), Ireland (360), Mexico (230), Cuba (225), Norway (205), Switzerland (200), Egypt (190), South Africa (175), New Zealand (150), Philippines (140), Portugal (120), Peru (110), Lebanon (75), Sweden (75), Colombia (60), Venezuela (60), Denmark (40), Czechoslovakia (30), Ecuador (30), Afghanistan (20), Dominican Republic (20), Guatemala (10), Liberia (1). The total for each year is 13,608,000 metric tons, and for the five years 499,997,000 bushels.

As of March 30, 22 countries, or two-thirds of the importing countries, representing 78.3 per cent of the wheat involved had signed the agreement in addition to all three exporting countries. Those who had not signed, but could still do so by April 1, were: Italy, French Union (and Saar), Brazil, Mexico, Sweden, Venezuela, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Dominican Republic, Guatemala and Poland, representing in all about three million tons or approximately 110 million bushels per year.

So ends for the time being at least, the 30-year-long search for some international measure which would put a stop to the growing dislocation in world wheat distribution. Argentina and Russia have remained outside the agreement. So also have a long list of the importing, self-sufficient or non-wheat-eating countries, including all of the Russian satellites in eastern Europe as well as Germany, Japan, Palestine and some of the other countries.

Previous attempts to reach international agreement (see Country Guide, page 63, April, 1947), had not been successful. Canada, normally the world's heaviest wheat exporter, has always been concerned about her wheat market. Assuming that the agreement operates successfully for five years, Canada has this to gain, that at no time during the five-year period of the agreement will wheat fall below \$1.10 per bushel for No. 1 Northern, basis Fort William or Port Arthur, unless for quantities exported in excess of 230 million bushels.

SINCE voting in the International Wheat Council will be based on the relative importance of each exporting or importing country under the agreement, and since the total number of votes is fixed at 2,000, there being 1,000 votes each for each group of countries, Canada will have 46 per cent of the votes among the exporting countries, and the United Kingdom 36 per cent of the votes held by importing countries.

Canada now has a four-year wheat agreement with the United Kingdom, which was entered into on July 24, 1946. This is not abrogated by the International Wheat Agreement, which provides that "so long as this agreement remains in force, it shall prevail over any provisions inconsistent therewith, which may be contained in any other agreement previously concluded between any of the contracting governments," and also, "should any two contracting governments be party to an agreement entered into prior to March 1, 1947 . . . the governments concerned shall supply full particulars of transactions under such agreements so that the quantity, irrespective of prices involved, shall be recorded in the register of transactions maintained by the Council . . . and so count for the fulfillment of obligations of importing countries and obligations of exporting countries."

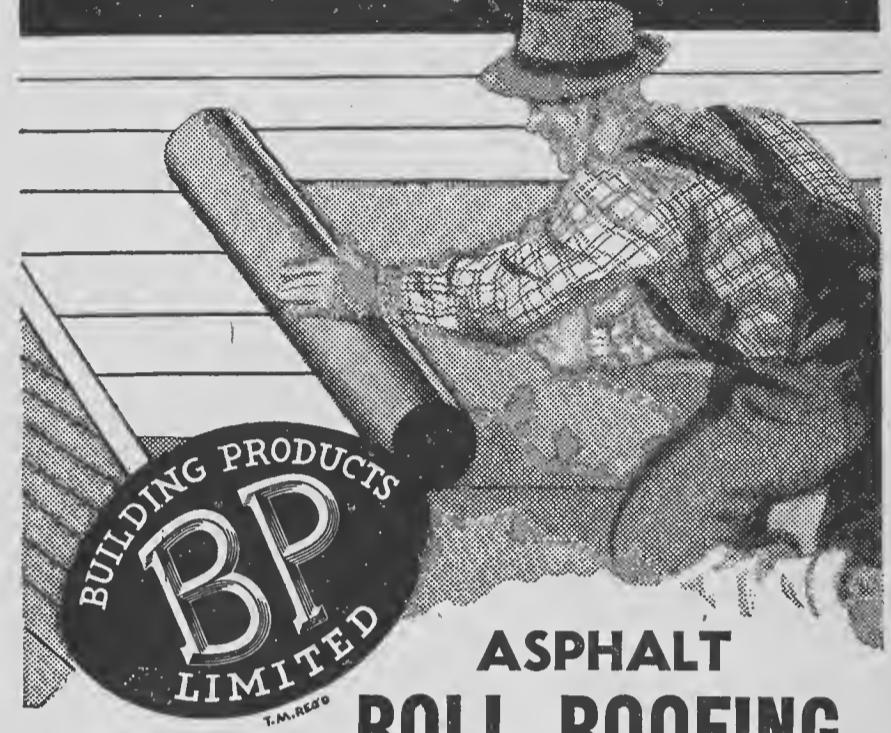
The Canada-U.K. Wheat Agreement still has two years to run. The price of \$2.00, which is the ceiling price under the international agreement, has already been fixed for the crop of 1948 under the Canada-U.K. Agreement. Negotiations have been underway between the Canadian and British governments for the price to be paid to Canada for British wheat purchases in the fourth year of the bi-lateral wheat agreement.

These coincided with other negotiations relating to future British methods of payment for other foods supplied to her on the beef, bacon, cheese and egg contracts. Contracts were firm as to quantities for the year, but subject to financial review at the end of March. No detailed statement has been made at this time, but Rt. Hon. J. G. Gardiner announced to the House of Commons late in March that the food contracts were safe for the balance of the year. As for the fourth year of the Wheat Agreement it is expected that the price will again be \$2.00 per bushel, which is the maximum allowed by the terms of the International Agreement. This would, however, not be sufficient to enable the Minister to make good his promises to western wheat growers, that prices during the last two years of the Agreement would be raised sufficiently to bring the prices for the four-year period into a satisfactory relationship to world prices.

If France, Italy, Brazil and Mexico, in particular, should not sign the agreement, this abstention would reduce the total yearly quantity covered by the International Wheat Agreement by 2,730,000 tons, or about 100 million bushels. This would mean that this or any other reduction would be shared proportionately by the three exporting countries. Canada's share of a 100-million bushel reduction would be 46 million bushels. It would reduce our commitment from 230 to about 184 million bushels per year.

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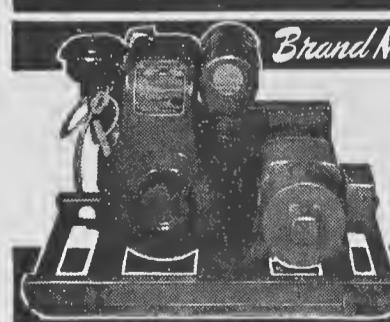
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Canada's Record 1947 Income

The average income of all Canadians last year was 254 per cent of their 1938 income

CANADA'S income in 1947 was higher than it has ever been before, according to the preliminary estimate which has now been made. "Net national income" is now calculated to have been \$10,735,000,000 for 1947, or \$1,118,000,000 higher than for 1946. From these large figures it will be evident that national income is not the same as the income received by our governments.

Last year Canada's total output of all kinds of goods and services amounted to \$13,052,000,000 which was \$1,232,000,000 higher than in 1944, the previous record year. It was \$1,396,000,000 higher than the figure for 1946. This over-all production figure which is called "gross national product at market prices" is an attempt to calculate year after year, in terms of money, the grand total of all the goods and services produced during the year by the Canadian nation, including all the revenue received by individuals and organizations from all sources. Officials of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics who make these calculations have certain terms which they use and which have a specific meaning for them and for all economists, but which are likely to be confusing to ordinary folk.

For example, there is "net national income at factor cost." This is not quite the same as the combined total of the income received by all the people of Canada, but these personal incomes do account for more than 95 per cent of the net national income at factor cost. To this latter figure, which last year amounted to \$10,735,000,000 in Canada, is added all the indirect taxes paid (less the amount of any subsidies), plus allowances for depreciation and similar business costs. These two items added to the net national income at factor cost and adjusted for what the statistician calls "residual error," give us the grand total which is called the gross national product at market prices.

HAVING arrived at this gross national product, valued at market prices, the statistician then attempts to check his calculations by setting up another table, the grand total of which must equal the value which he has arrived at for the gross national product. This second table he calls the "gross national expenditure at market prices." This table includes such items as all expenditures by the Canadian people on goods and services which they require as consumers. This total last year amounted to \$8,711,000,000. Added to this are government expenditures, including the money spent for such purposes as UNRRA and Mutual Aid. Then there is the grand total of money earned by Canadians and invested in Canada in housing, equipment, factories, and all kinds of raw materials and finished products purchased for manufacture or sale. Added to these are the exports of goods and

services, less the amount of imports and, finally, the usual adjustment for "residual error." Thus we have two tables which balance each other, one the gross national product at market prices, and the other the gross national expenditure at market prices.

WHAT is called "personal income" in 1947 amounted to \$10,259,000,000 or \$723,000,000 more than in 1946. This is made up of salaries, wages and all kinds of labor income, less the amount paid out for social insurance and government pension funds. Then there is the total of all military pay and allowances; and the net income of agriculture and other unincorporated businesses. A fourth item is the income received by individuals in the form of interest, dividends, and net rentals. Finally, after we have added payments made by governments to individuals, and other payments to individuals by charitable contributions made by corporations, we have a grand total of the personal income of all the Canadian people.

Here, too, the statistician devises a table of personal expenditures to balance personal income. These are grouped under three headings. First, all kinds of direct taxes; second, the total expenditure for all consumer goods and services; and third, the total amount of money saved by all individuals. These items added together thus account for the total amount of personal income.

A considerable portion of Canada's increase in gross national product last year was the result of price increases, because the cost of living index increased by 9.6 per cent from 1946 to 1947, while wholesale prices rose 18.7 per cent.

Canadian consumers spent a billion dollars more in 1947 than in 1946, which was an increase of 13.4 per cent. Government expenditures, however, declined by \$300 million. The amount of money invested by Canadians in Canada during the year also increased by one billion dollars, which was 57.1 per cent more than the previous year, and made up 21.6 per cent of the gross national expenditure, as compared with only 15.4 per cent in 1946.

Although consumers spent a billion dollars more, personal income only rose by \$700 million. This had the effect of decreasing the amount of personal savings; in fact, individuals were only able to save 7.5 per cent of personal income in 1947, as compared with 11.1 per cent in 1946.

Canada's net national income has increased in ten years from \$3,972,000,000 in 1938 to \$10,735,000,000 in 1947. In the same period, gross national product at market prices, which is the same figure as for gross national expenditure at market prices has increased from \$5,141,000,000 in 1938 to \$13,052,000,000 in 1947.



Shorthorns pasturing on the Brandon Experimental Farm.

Expanding World Food Production

Overseas territories are being developed by European governments to increase production of needed vegetable products

SEVERAL European countries, notably Belgium, France, the Netherlands and Britain, with overseas possessions, are planning to expand food production in these dependent territories. Several objectives are involved, but generally speaking, the object is to increase agricultural production in little-developed territories so as to render these territories more self-sufficient and increase the levels of living of their agricultural producers, while at the same time integrating food production with the food needs of the European homeland.

Thus, while irrigating and draining land, clearing jungle and bush, establishing ports and transportation facilities to bring about greater production of food, the various projects also include the establishment of experimental stations, the provision of machinery for large-scale cultivation, the development of crop-processing facilities in designated centres and the increase in the production of fruits, vegetables, dairy products or livestock.

Along with these developments, especially clearing and drainage, comes the control of disease-carrying insects and pests. Irrigation may lead to an improvement in domestic water supply and the development of electric power. Transportation and processing may increase the producer's income, and at the same time bring additional health and educational services, proving that production and progress in a modern civilization are indivisible.

Britain has many territories, and schemes for increasing the production of foodstuffs are planned or under way in British East Africa, British West Africa, Rhodesia, Nyasaland, the Gold Coast, Nigeria, Malaya and elsewhere. Some of these plans may prove impracticable, as at first conceived.

The colonial government in Nyasaland has announced a program of increased production of wheat, dairy products, edible oils, fruits and vegetables, for export to hard currency markets.

In Tanganyika, it is planned to redistribute the population and livestock so as to move people and animals from districts where the soil is depleted, to newly-irrigated areas. The government will also introduce improved methods of husbandry, mechanization and soil conservation. Operation on a communal basis for about one-fifth of the native population will be encouraged.

IN Southern Rhodesia, a large irrigation project and the development of inland navigation is contemplated. It is proposed to erect a dam in a gorge of the Zambezi River, from which additional water supply would be available sufficient to serve several million acres in the Zambezi Valley, where tropical and sub-tropical crops could be grown.

In the Gold Coast, additional areas are planned for rice, soybean and peanut production as an aid to the British food program. It is hoped also to expand cocoa production, but the possibilities in this direction seem to be fairly limited.

In Nigeria, a British mission has made recommendations as to areas suitable for peanut production. The first crops, however, are not expected to be planted before the 1949 season, even if the project is approved.

At present, British West Africa produces about 55 per cent of the world's supply of cocoa, and a long-term research program is under way by the West African Cocoa Research Institute to combat diseases and pests harmful

to the industry. The Gold Coast Cocoa Marketing Board markets all Gold Coast cocoa and uses profits from its operations for improvement of the cocoa industry.

In the Malaya Union, a program has been worked out involving mechanized cultivation. More than 70,000 acres of new or abandoned rice land have been brought under irrigated cultivation and the yield is expected to be increased on an additional 120,000 acres. New settlers are encouraged to take up land, and subsidies of from \$50 to \$70 per three acres cleared and planted have been granted, while, in addition, 280,000 pounds of rice seed were distributed in 1947. Agricultural implements are available either for loan, or at moderate prices for sale. The Malayan government has also made use of certain compulsory powers to secure higher production from negligent land owners. Up to a year ago, 35,000 acres of land were under compulsory food crop production.

In the British Solomon Islands, copra production is being increased by the way of interest-free loans to help rehabilitate copra plantations.

Jamaica has inaugurated a 10-year plan including land settlement, irrigation and subsidies to planters, financed jointly by the colonial and imperial governments.

In British Guiana, a rice development program under way involves about one million dollars.

BELGIUM plans to increase vegetable oil production such as palm, palm kernel and cottonseed in the Belgian Congo. These plans are being carried out primarily by commercial interests, which are expanding port and processing facilities. It is expected that palm oil output may reach 165,000 tons this year, compared with about 130,000 tons last year. In the Eastern Congo also, commercial interests have established a 1,250-acre experimental tract for the production of peanuts. Crushing plants to utilize cottonseed are also under consideration, and four plants are in operation.

The French four-year plan for reconstruction and modernization applies to overseas possessions as well as to France itself. In April, 1946, a law was passed providing for the drawing up of ten-year plans for the economic and social development of overseas possessions. These plans were designed to help the native population. Included is that for Madagascar. There is a 250,000-acre lake region, a 430,000-acre delta region to be developed, as well as 250,000 additional acres to be irrigated and drained. Testing stations, schools and laboratories are to be established.

In French Central Africa, cultivation will be mechanized gradually, on two areas of 500,000 acres each. It is further proposed to develop co-operatives for the cultivation of peanuts by native growers on a partly mechanized basis. It is also proposed to irrigate 680,000 acres for rice production so that growers of peanuts will not find it necessary to produce all of their own food. Other vegetable oil crops are also being encouraged and steps taken towards their more efficient production.

In the Netherlands East Indies, the Netherlands government is hoping to restore copra and palm oil production. These attempts, however, are not likely to be successful until political stability in the plantation areas is secured. Last year copra production in the Netherlands Indies was only about one-third of pre-war volume, though it is expected to be increased substantially this year.

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Indian Medicines

Behind the supernatural tomfoolery of the Indian Medicine Man there was a lot of common sense medication

By KERRY WOOD

THE Indian Medicine Man with his gaudily painted wagon is now extinct, revived only in story and historical movie as a comic character. Many of the roving practitioners were nothing more than glib-tongued rogues, their so-called medicines being in reality bottled creek water colored with cranberry juice, osage chips, or even grass. But a few conscientious members of that checker-coated clan actually did sell the genuine article, an authentic Indian herbal remedy. Because Indians did have their own medicinal prescriptions, prepared in the vast pharmacy of nature.

Were Indian remedies any good?

We know that the redmen our earliest explorers encountered were a marvelously healthy people, well able to stand the hardships of their primitive way of life. Still, they did have their spells of sickness, and at such times the befeathered medicine men did their best to relieve suffering. We may scoff at the legendary hokus-pokus of the medicine man, but in actual fact the majority of the old-time medicine men were wise leaders and able practitioners.

They did not rely solely upon incantations and a couple of whomps on a tom-tom. It's true that they had to perform a certain amount of mumbo-jumbo, possibly to satisfy the incredulous fears and superstitions of their patients. But most medicine men put their faith in concoctions which they brewed from the barks and roots of trees and plants. Centuries of trial and error taught them the true values of herbal remedies, the better recipes carefully memorized and passed on to the newly-initiated members of their exclusive group.

What were those medicines?

It may surprise you to learn that some of the patent medicines lined up in your own medicine cabinet today had their origin in the brews mixed by old-time Indians. They told their secrets to the explorers and early missionaries, who in turn passed on such information in their reports. Time has dealt unfairly with the Indian influence in these matters; we now claim full credit for discovering the curative qualities of many a plant first used by the aboriginal redman.

Some years ago it was my good fortune to have contact with a kindly old medicine man of the finest sort—an Indian who, when over 70 years of age, did not hesitate to climb onto a spry pony and ride 30 miles or more to attend a sick member of his little tribe. He had become a devout Christian; the "incantations" recited at the bedside of an ailing brother were hymns and prayers chanted in guttural Cree. But the medicines used were still the old-time concoctions of the traditional medicine man, and it was obvious to even a casual observer that these herbal remedies were highly beneficial.

THE following list of Indian medicines was compiled from recipes supplied by this old gentleman, with a few others added from the writings of early pioneers who learned the efficiency of such remedies while associated with Indians. Only tested recipes are listed, but remember—bark and root medicines must be used while freshly brewed.

The bark of the Black Alder, either tree or shrub, is used to make this reliable tonic. Collect one pound of alder bark, add it to one gallon of clean water, then boil over a fierce fire until the liquid has been reduced to about one quart of brown-colored fluid. Strain it clean, then your tonic is ready for use. The dose is one tablespoonful three

times a day before meals for two to three weeks. Alder Bark Tonic is exceptionally beneficial in the spring of the year when the human system is somewhat run down after the long winter, but it can be safely used at any time of year if a person needs a bracing tonic.

Another excellent tonic and blood conditioner may be made from White Birch twigs, prepared as an herbal tea. Add a tablespoonful of finely chopped and hammer-mashed birch twigs to a cup of boiling water, stir the twig-pulp vigorously until the water becomes amber in color, then drink the brew. For best results, four cupfuls of this hot birch-tea should be taken daily over a two-week period.

THE roots of the common Red Willow or Dwarf Dogwood provide a powerful remedy useful for correcting a rundown condition caused by nervous strain. Obtain two pounds of the roots, wash them carefully, then chop into small fragments and smash flat with a hammer. Place the pulp in a gallon of water and soak for a day before boiling. Boil for several hours, until the gallon of water has been reduced to one pint of liquid. Strain this off and bottle it, ready for use. The dose is one teaspoonful taken between meals for one week's time.

This same Red Willow root decoction, when taken in double doses, has a similar effect on the human system as five-grain quinine; it is most efficient as a fever-driver or to counteract a severe chill by sharply raising body temperatures and inducing heavy perspiration.

The common Aspen Poplar provides us with an effective laxative, one that has some valuable blood purification qualities. The inner white bark of the tree is used, and half a pound of this white pulp is sufficient to mix with one quart of water. Boil for two hours, then strain off the liquid for use. The dose is one tablespoonful of the brew, taken four times daily until relief is obtained.

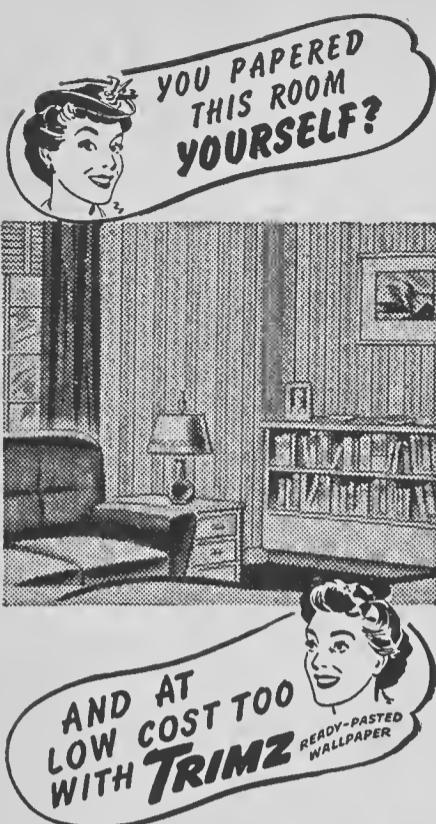
A stronger laxative may be decocted from the young leaves and buds of the Manitoba Maple. Gather half a pound of these, mash to a soft pulp with a hammer, then boil for one hour in two quarts of water. One teaspoonful, morning and evening, is the dose.

THE best known Indian medicine is the familiar cherry-bark cough remedy. Any of the wild cherry barks may be used—chokecherry, pincherry, or the eastern blackberry. One pound of the inner bark is required for every gallon of water, and the bark should be soaked in the water for a two-day period. After the soaking, boil bark and water until the gallon has been reduced to one quart. Strain clear of the bark residue, add half a cup of sugar to sweeten it, and use in teaspoonful doses whenever a bad coughing spell comes on.

This cherry-bark recipe is an old favorite with many a pioneer family and likely will be used for many generations to come. Originally an Indian remedy, it is one of the most effective cough-stoppers known.

If more convenient, the inner bark of Elm may be used instead of cherry bark. One pound of bark to one gallon of water, boiled until one pint of liquid is obtained. The dose is the same; use a teaspoonful whenever a coughing spell becomes severe.

Indians also used the roots of wild cherries to make a decoction they called Lung Medicine. The roots collected were carefully washed, then chopped into



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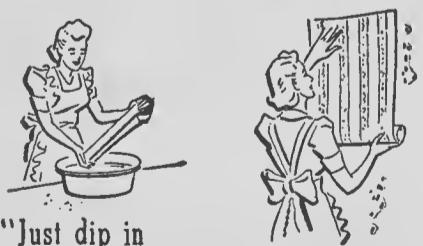
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small pieces and mashed with a hammer. One pound of root-pulp to one gallon of water, boiled for several hours until one-pint of liquid remains. This is a rather powerful medicine, and should be used sparingly—one scant teaspoonful three times a day between meals. Indians used it to relieve respiratory congestion.

To stop bleeding from a cut or a nose bleed, Indians used the fine dust from a dry puffball—taking care to keep the dust out of the eyes. Puffball spore-dust quickly congeals the blood and helps form a clot.

AGAIN, the Black Alder was sought when Indians needed a cure for pimples and skin rash. Gather a quantity of alder twigs—considered extra potent if collected during the spring season before the leaves are out—and smash these twigs to a pulp by using a hammer. Place a heaping tablespoonful of the alder-twigs pulp in a cupful of boiling water, stir vigorously, and drink while warm. Alder tea should be taken daily, before meals and at bedtime, for at least two weeks. By that time any pimples or rash caused by a blood disorder should have cleared away.

Because of their fresh and sometimes raw meat diet, Indians were often bothered by intestinal worms. To rid themselves of these weakening parasites, they used the roots of wild ferns to make a remedy, boiling one pound of fern-root in a gallon of water until a pint of concentrated medicine was obtained. One teaspoonful taken before meals is the dose.

Because of their active outdoor life, Indians were always suffering from bruises and cuts. They had one sure cure: The pitch from the Balsam Fir. And this is still one of the finest wound salves obtainable anywhere.

Indians collected the pitch by pricking the sap bubbles that form on the trunks of balsams, then squeezing out the sticky, clear pitch to apply it directly onto the sore or wound, sometimes wrapping a piece of soft doeskin over the affected area for protection. Balsam gum was so well known and well thought of among Indians that it was occasionally used as a trading medium between medicine men, the mountain Indians collecting the gum and trading it to plains tribes whenever the two groups met in peaceful parley.

Some Indian medicine men also prescribed balsam gum as an internal medicine to counteract stomach cramps—a common Indian complaint due to their unbalanced diet. They stirred a spoonful of the balsam pitch into a cupful of boiling water and sipped the mixture while still hot. Many patent medicines today employ balsam gum as the curative ingredient in cough and cold remedies.

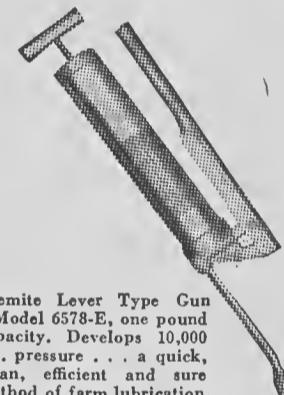
When balsam gum was unobtainable, Indians sometimes used the fresh, clear gum from spruce and pine trees. But they are most emphatic that the balsam pitch possesses the greater medicinal value.

THREE are many other Indian medicines; Saskatoon bark boiled to make a concoction useful as a wound wash and to counteract itch; extract from the root-bulb of the rare ladyslipper as a nerve tonic; a tea made from juniper berries which is reputed to correct kidney disorders; and a brew made from crushed wintergreen leaves which Indians used in conjunction with a sweat-bath as a remedy for rheumatism.

All the redmen's remedies were grown in Nature's garden. The medicinal plants are still growing there today, and decoctions made from them are as effective now as they were during the long centuries before the white men settled this continent. So perhaps you, too, can make use of this list of Nature's own pharmaceuticals as prepared by our country's First Citizens.



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Consider the Acorn

Science may ease the growing demand for food by raising the status of acorns as a food crop

If Canadians give any thought at all to population problems, it is along the line of finding more immigrants to fill our waste spaces, or finding customers for our food surpluses. Few in this country worry about the rapid increases of world population recorded in the last few decades and the problem of finding food for further increases estimated.

The world's crop lands produce food enough to nourish properly about 1.6 billion people. But the world's population is already about 2.2 billion. Small wonder that Sir John Boyd Orr declares that even before the war two-thirds of the people in the world were under-nourished all the time.

Statisticians call our attention to the alarming way in which population is pyramiding in the more densely settled countries. Europe, after the most destructive war in history, comes to 1948 with 21 million more people than when the war began. Japan is adding a full million a year in spite of the rigors imposed upon a defeated country. China will double its population in 99 years if things proceed along past lines. Given peace and rapid economic development she will treble her numbers in that time. Fifty years from now the world's population will be over three billion, and 40 years later it will be double what it is today.

The problem will, of course, be tackled along two lines. Sooner or later the world will face up to the problem of finding a better way of limiting population than famine, pestilence and war. The other side of the equation is to increase food production. Surprisingly little can be done with respect to expanding productive crop land. Science will contribute something toward greater productivity from a given acreage, but it must fight that battle with one hand, for the other one is engaged in conserving soil resources which are being squandered at an unprecedented rate.

WITH these considerations uppermost, Thos. Q. Mitchell, an American plant breeder, suggests in the February "Harper's" that we give thought to the acorn.

To a remarkable extent men have already lived by the fruit of trees. In California, before the arrival of the Spanish conquistadores, 300,000 Indians used acorns as their chief starch food. In the eastern Mediterranean acorns are today, as they have been for centuries, an important food crop. Oaks and chestnuts produce nearly all the starch eaten by cattle, and the acorn is rated as equal to the chestnut in yield and profit. Vendors sell roasted acorns in the street. Corsica is a dry gravel heap with a rainfall comparable to Swift Current; yet the oak farmer can sit at ease for 11 months of the year, or go fishing if he likes, knowing that a

few weeks' work in the fall will suffice for him to collect and dry the nuts.

Crop trees will grow and produce enormous quantities of cheap food in vast areas—perhaps equal in extent to the world's crop land—on poor, hilly, cut-over; and on land which is worthless for grain. They will stabilize and hold up that land, checking erosion from wind and rain.

Acorns are rich in starch. They contain 20 to 30 per cent of oil and six to seven per cent protein. The great handicap with acorns is the high percentage of tannin they contain. Hogs tolerate tannin, and so they have been fed on acorns from prehistoric times. With hogs and man competing for the world's supply of grain it would seem wise to give thought to acorn production on land unsuited for growing any other food.

CATTLE and horses require sweet strains relatively free from tannin. Such strains are known to plant breeders and offer a basis for breeding improved varieties. Another and equally important aim is to develop a more rapidly maturing tree, for the oak is a notoriously slow grower. The third aim is to develop strains with larger fruits. Plant breeder Mitchell says there is no reason to doubt the eventual production of acorns as big as tennis balls. As for rapid growth, one of his hybrids grew 31 feet tall from seed in 10 years. As for productivity, United States foresters have noted individual trees which have yielded from 200 to 600 pounds of nuts in one crop. The Hooker oak of California is reported to yield a ton of acorns a year. These observations make it appear that scientists already have the materials at hand for a promising oak breeding program.

While combining the meritorious features listed above the oak breeder must preserve and intensify the ability of the oak to thrive on dry land. Oaks have an enormous range. On this continent they grow from eastern Saskatchewan to Panama. They succeed from the 10-inch rain belt of eastern Colorado, where the evaporation season is relatively long, to the 120-inch rainfall of coastal Washington. In dry land at Manhattan, Kansas, a scrub oak has borne a yield of nuts weighing more than the entire bush including roots. Oaks will survive drought and flood which would destroy any grain crop.

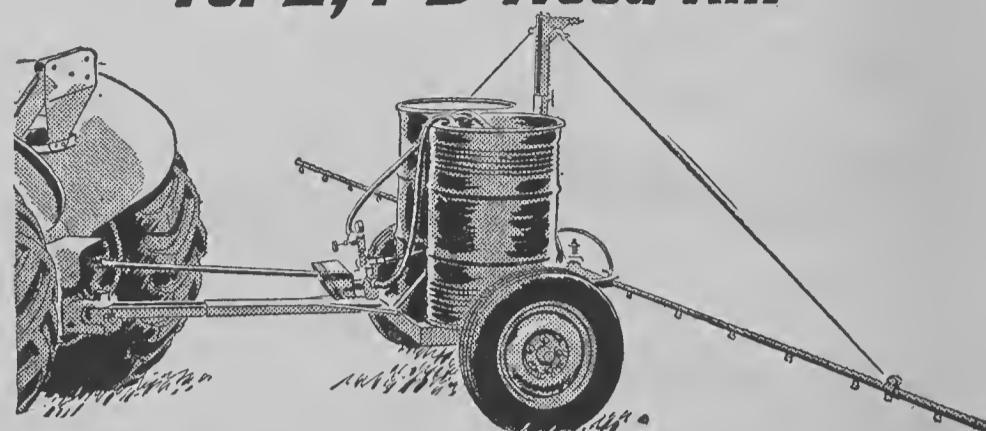
Mr. Mitchell sees in hybrid oaks the crop which will arrest the damage from water erosion now becoming so important on the American plains. Says he:

"Four hundred acres planted with crop trees in contour rows spaced several hundred feet apart, and underplanted with some surface crop such as soybeans, will produce as much beans as 300 acres planted to beans alone, plus as much acorns as 300 acres planted solidly with oaks."



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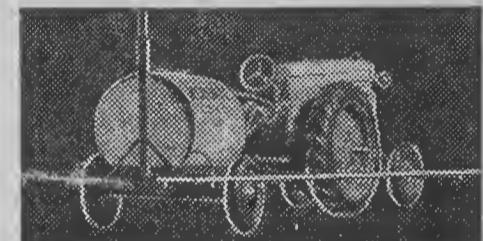
Galvanized 1" booms are adjustable from 20" to 36" above ground, and fold for easy transportation and storage. Opened, they are 26' wide with a spray width of 27'6". Nozzles are flat-spray, low-volume type at 18" centres over length of boom.

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39-FOOT SPRAYING WIDTH

Folding booms, adjustable to height of crop, have swivels and rubber-tired wheels—operate easily over rolling, plowed or stony land. Twenty-six flat-type spray, low-pressure nozzles atomize spray into fine mist. Galvanized 200-gal. tank has capacity for spraying 40 acres or more without refilling. Galvanized 1" booms can be operated independently.

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HIGH CLIMBER IN A HURRY

Continued from page 12

Up here his only chance of fresh air was to open a sort of chimney above him.

He realized suddenly that save for the crackle and hiss of fire, silence had fallen over both camp areas. The crews evidently had had to retreat from a fast ground fire that spread both ways. He was marooned, a lone bit of humanity above a sea of fire, threatened with being smoked to death if not burned to a cinder.

HASKINS would have to hurry like hell if he was going to do any good. Haskins, five miles away, up visiting Fay when he ought to be on the job. And working.

"He said he would smoke me out sometime! By God, maybe he meant it—this way!" Jack thought. "Oh, hell, what a silly idea. I'm going nuts, I guess."

But Haskins was making a hard, fast play for Fay. She was something to tempt such a man, a bronze blonde with violet eyes fringed by dark lashes and brows, teeth that her dimpled smiles showed as white and even as rows of ever-green corn on the cob, framed by lips that ought to taste like wild strawberries.

He knew now why animosity had flared up so quickly between him and Haskins. Jealousy. Sure he was jealous and admitted it. He could taste salt in his mouth along with smoke.

He pushed his sharp saw fiercely back and forth, dug his spurs in the thick bark, leaning back on his pass-line that circled the trunk just below the cut, a sweating, ant-like figure suspended in a smoky void, at the height of a fifteen-storey building with fire billowing and blowing up beneath him in its own draft.

What was that old story he had heard as a kid that had impressed him so much? About the mason, building a tall, brick stack, as high as this spar, and just finishing when his rope slipped through the pulley, leaving him stranded on top. And how a crowd gathered and stared and shouted useless advice, and nobody could figure out how he could get down until wife came and yelled up to him!

"John! Unravel your stocking, John! Begin at the toe!"

She had knitted those socks and knew where to start unravelling, and that the yarn was strong enough to pull up a cord, then a rope, and John got safely down.

But how in hell was Jack Rennie going to get down from this pillar. If he only had a 'chute on him now instead of the radio!

A last, lunging stroke and the top began to tremble. He jerked his saw out, let it dangle, his eyes blinded with biting tears. He hardly saw the top swing out over in a ponderous arc, but heard it swish through the air, then the butt ripped loose from the last tough fibre and it went smashing down through the limbs of the nearer trees. It did clear the air some. Then the spar recoiled, swung back and forth and Jack felt sick for the first time in his life, having eaten too much smoke.

When the top struck the ground it smashed the fire down—but up came a fresh billow of black smoke, full of ashes and sparks. He dashed more water on his dried-out kerchief, swallowed a last mouthful of the warm fluid and held his breath, fearful that those sparks would catch in the rustling dry leafage around him. But they didn't, yet.

Jack was now chin level with the bare, reddish top of a one hundred foot spar, clean from top to bottom. He had taken the roof off a hole in the woods and the smoke did seem to thin a bit, but the danger now was a jump, a blow-up of flames. It was still a ground fire, a creeper, save for that roaring pile at the base of the spar. He could feel the heat of it, even at this height, and there was not a whisper of wind save that hot blast rising.

Well, he was all through now, no more work he could do. His arms ached from rapid sawing, his legs shook a bit. He wondered why Fay was no longer talking to him. He discovered he had his radio on "send" instead of "receive." When he threw the switch over, her voice came in, rapid, with a desperate note in it!

"Jack! Jack Rennie! Come in, Jack! I'm trying to get—haven't been able to reach—Jack! Haskins started that brush fire—then came up and asked me for a permit! Jack, I had to pull a gun on him to drive him away—and he's going to 'quit the country, the beast! He doesn't dare go back to the woods. Get rid of your tools, Jack, and stand up. If I can't get—"

Her voice broke off abruptly, and he discovered the reason. His radio had gone dead. Out.

"She was trying to get headquarters—to send a Ranger plane," he croaked aloud. "My God, is she crazy? How can

a plane pick me off or how could I jump it?"

The Service planes were unable to throttle down to less than 40 miles an hour without stalling. Maybe a good pilot could manage to glide a bit slower, risk stalling. Maybe he'd trail a rope, maybe even a ladder or a net. He thought of the mail pickup rig, with a plane dangling a hook to catch a stretched rope with the mail sack on it, and yank it up.

He had his pass-line. He began to get ready for anything. He dropped his axe, his saw, his pliers, canteen, heavy belt, and after a last, desperate effort to get sound out of his walkie-talkie, he dropped that, too, and now he felt more alone and out of the world than ever. He waited a little while then, wondering what the next move would be.

AND then he clearly heard a plane. He heard it in the distance at first and strained to catch a glimpse of it but it was too far away. He wondered what plane it was and when it would get to him and what his chances were of making it safely. The sound of the plane receded and then became stronger. It was circling now, in an ever-narrowing area.

He could not see more than a few feet in any direction, save up. He could see and feel the burning sun that beat down from the noon sky, adding to his misery. He was sitting on the broad top of the spar, knotting his pass-line about his thighs, making ready to hold the bight of it high above his head with arms outstretched, so the pilot could hook it—if he had a hook. Fay had spoken of the pass-line. Well, if no hook, he would have to make a wild grab and a leap—and make it with a nose dive to eternity. Yeah, even if he jumped into the branches of a tree he would slither down into Purgatory. He couldn't hang on much longer, anyway. The fire was still a ground one but any moment now there might be a blowup of flames, and then it would be too late. The smoke was becoming denser. He wondered how much longer he would have to wait.

"St. Simeon Styliates," he muttered, with a grim flash of humor, "had nothing on me. No, sir, not even a plane. Where is it?"

The buzzing of the ship sounded odd to him. It was coming in very, very slowly, circling, high up. He caught a momentary glimpse of a moving object in the yellowish smoke that curled and swirled into an unearthly mushroom above him. He stood up. He took off his spurs and dropped them, felt his legs tremble as the straps were loosened. He stood like a signalman, arms high, head back, staring tearfully into the soiled sky, watching for the plane to make the swoop, gritting his teeth. It would have to come down pretty fast, to zoom up again out of that unholy smoke hole.

"Well," he muttered, "she tried—she got it—only thing she could do . . . must be she—for God's sake, what kind of a bird?"

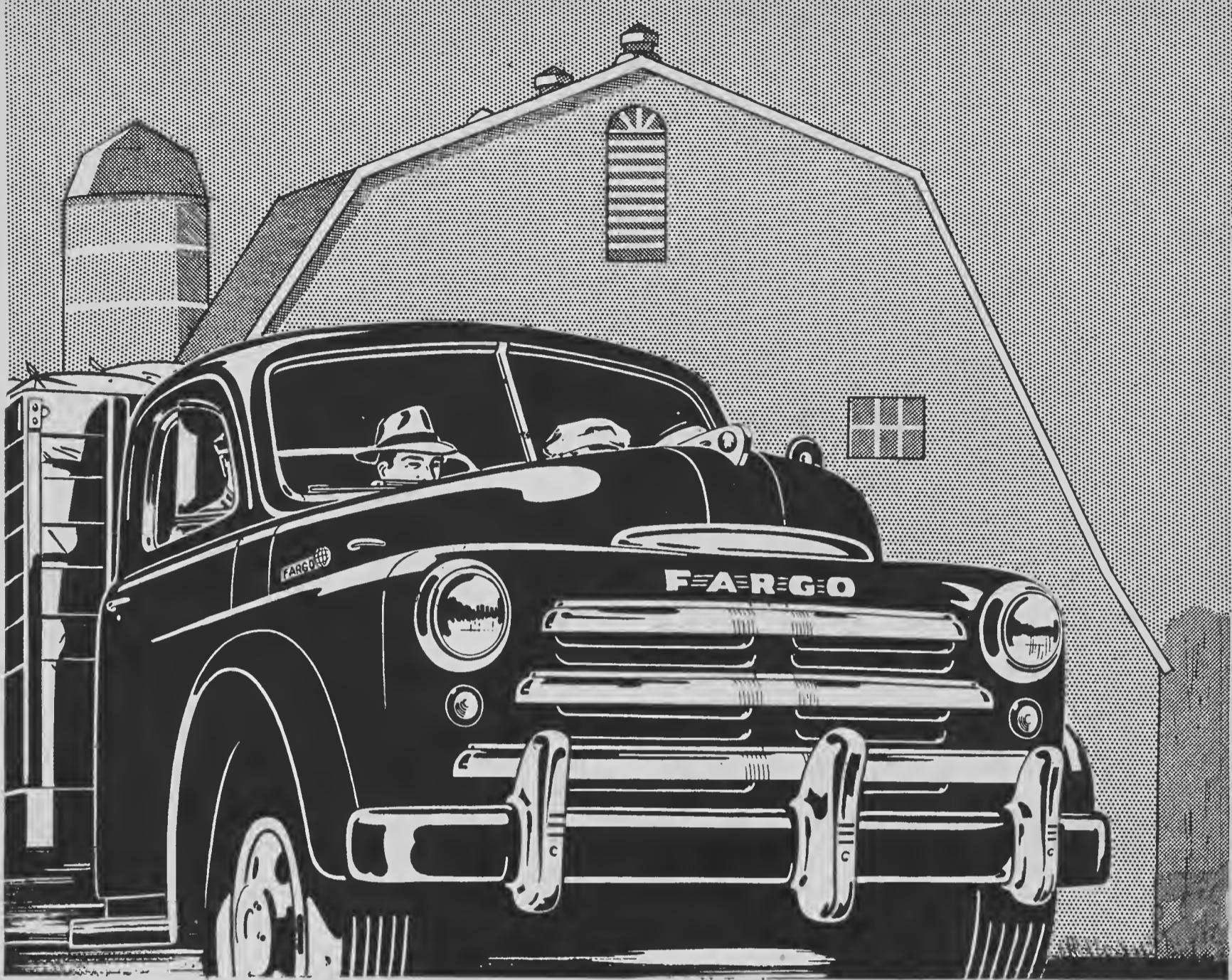
And suddenly he knew. It was a sort of a bird. A humming bird. It was the professor with his new improved helicopter thing! It could fly not only straight up, but it could hover and settle slowly, and stay still, like a humming bird. Even now he recalled the magazine articles which featured helicopter rescues.

A nice rope ladder dangled in Jack's face and he was a good high climber.

The smoky hole exploded into a crown of fire as the helicopter rose straight up in a hurry and sailed away, fanning smoke with its whirling propeller, and up and up into nice clean, fresh air. Just as easy as that!

And the professor landed his passenger on the barren top of Mt. Emily because Fay had asked him to, and there Jack Rennie learned that she was not all silence by a long shot, and that her lips did taste like wild strawberries.





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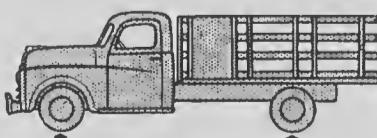
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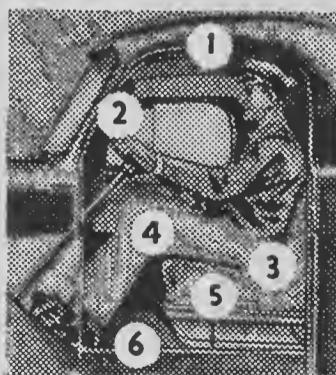


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The Plant Life of British Columbia

J. W. Eastham, retiring plant pathologist, recounts some changes that follow on settlement

By HARRY R. GREGSON

WHILE the military experts debate the possibility of an invasion from the North, the invasion, as far as British Columbia and Western Prairie farmers is concerned, has already taken place.

Their alfalfa fields (alfalfa is grown as cattle feed) are congested with Russian weeds, imported from Turkestan when it became necessary to introduce hardier growths of alfalfa grass. One of these Russian weeds is a member of the daisy family. Another belongs to the cabbage tribe and they are a scourge today in British Columbia.

This unforeseen development is revealed by J. W. Eastham, 68-year-old Vancouver City Plant Pathologist, who is retired at the end of 1948 after 33 years spent studying plants and plant diseases.

Eastham can also talk of other invasions from the north . . . the spring beauty, a nodding, drooping flower known scientifically as Claytonia Siberica, which crossed the Bering Sea from Kamchatka to establish itself in the northlands of Canada. This invader, however, is welcome. Claytonia Siberica is an asset to the floral landscape.

There are many other northern botanical invaders but with few exceptions they don't get far south. Something happens to the soil or climate about the 54th parallel which stops their advance. The same thing happens to invaders from the East, which find gaps in the Northern Ranges of the Rockies through which they invade British Columbia.

EASTHAM ought to know. He has searched the whole of the province for botanical specimens. The wild Calla Lily, a native of the East, is never found south of latitude 53. For several years, Eastham hunted for a rare species of hazel nut, one of the two species grown west of the Rockies. The one species is found all over North America, the other he found at McBride, above latitude 53, on the Fraser River.

One of the most important aspects of a plant pathologist's work is the detection and prevention of plant diseases. Since he entered office in 1914, Eastham has seen the scourge of bacterial rindrot, which was hitherto unknown and is now spread all over the North American continent. It is believed to have come from Europe. Bacterial rindrot stunts potatoes and reduces the tuber to a perfectly rotten mass.

Clubroot, another scourge of the farmer, was unknown in British Columbia in Eastham's early years. It has come here, it is believed, from the East, and is now widespread.

A very serious disease in British Columbia is the little cherry disease . . . a virus disease and therefore impossible to analyze under the ordinary microscope. This disease makes cherries flavorless and threatens to eliminate the Kootenay Lake cherry industry.

AT one time the potato industry was threatened by an American ban on Canadian potatoes, due to "powdery scab." Diagnosis of the origin of this disease gave plant pathologists many anxious moments, until they became convinced that it was not a bacterial disease but due to wet soil.

How does the pathologist combat disease?

Although bacteriological warfare and insecticide spraying make good reading, Vancouver's plant pathologist is not one of those who see a great future for these combat methods. Both are still in their infancy, he says, and it is very difficult to evolve either bacteria or in-

secticides which may not do more harm than good . . . by upsetting the chemical balance of the soil, for instance.

The old-time methods he thinks are the best . . . destruction by fire of diseased crops, swift detection of the spread of disease into new areas, diagnosis of origin of disease. The Little Cherry Disease, for instance, may originate in wild cherries.

Another notable advance in combating disease is the certification of disease-free stock in certain plants. A very elaborate system, originating in Ottawa, exists for the inspection and certification of potatoes during growing and while they are being dug. The principle has been extended to strawberries and is now being considered for bulb-growing.

Greatest hopes of all are held in the development of disease-resistant varieties . . . but with trees, which may take 100 years or more in growing, this is a slow process.

To those who talk of eternal unchanging nature a peep into the botanical world is revealing. Some plants which existed a few decades ago when the first railways were driven through to the coast, have disappeared. Other, then rare plants, have multiplied. The wall lettuce, with its milky juice and little yellow flowers, has become a pest in Vancouver Island. It has crowded out the native flora. Yet 50 years ago it was a novelty.

IT is sad to think that British Columbia is the original home of very few plants. Most of them have come here from the north, across the Rockies, or Britain. A minor variety of lupin and a flower called autumn blood are all that Eastham claims as originals although he admits that what constitutes a species is a matter of controversy.

Botanically, British Columbia should not belong to Canada at all. The regions west of the Rockies, both in Canada and America are botanically homogenous.

Plant pathologists do not like plants such as the dogwood and raspberry which sometimes bloom twice in the course of a year.

It weakens the strain and is harmful for next year's flowers and fruit, they say.

They are skeptical of Indians who claim to be able to foretell a severe winter by the plentifullness of berries and other floral evidence.

"The contribution of Indians to our knowledge of botany is insignificant," said Eastham. "For years they used Devil's Club as a remedy for diabetes. The matter was very thoroughly investigated in eastern laboratories and disproved."

You may know the difference between toadstools and mushrooms, but for the pathologist there's no difference. They're all fungi, edible or non-edible, and there's no certain method of telling which is which except scientific knowledge.

Other discoveries of British Columbia's best known "bug man" are that British Columbia originally had no worms at all. Worms are the cultivator's greatest ally, he says, and he deplores the energy with which some gardeners kill them. His definition of a weed . . . a plant that mankind doesn't want . . . is simple and fitted to the practical world in which he works.

A collection of 16,000 sheets of botanical specimens and a scientific work "Flora Southern British Columbia" are permanent monuments to his industry.

879 Calgary Bulls Average \$470

New record aggregate indicates undiminished confidence in the immediate future of beef

THE 48th annual show and sale of bulls held at Calgary, March 15 to 19, hung up a new record as usual.

While last year's high average of \$478.15 was not quite reached, a slightly larger number of bulls went through the ring with the result that this year's aggregate \$413,900 represents a new top.

The fat stock show and sale brought out some fine beasts but prices were not as spectacular as last year's. Ed Noad had the champion steer of the show which sold for \$65 to T. Eaton Co. Best baby beef was shown by Miles McCollister and sold to the same firm for \$55. Apart from the tops, bidders seemed apathetic, and the first asking price was not much above stockyards level. The highest price group of five steers was only \$17.50; the lowest was \$16.00, a very narrow spread from top to bottom. A total of 174 show steers averaged \$17.96 per cwt.

Herefords, as always at Calgary, dominated the bull show. A total of 599 of them went under the auctioneer's hammer, selling for \$512.61 average, a small drop from last year's record of \$530. The Hereford show ring developed into a battle of the giants, W. A. Crawford-Frost of Nanton and W. J. Edgar of Innisfail. The championship went to the former herd on Criterion 11th, sired by Pine Coulee Real Domino 12th. Second bull in the champion's own class was another son of that sire. All the other Crawford-Frost bulls were by Silver Standard. The reserve champion from the Edgar herd was also sired by a Crawford-Frost bull. The champion sold for \$3,400 to a new herd belonging to Mrs. Celta Cole and Sons, Redlands, Alberta. The half-brother which stood second to him sold for \$3,100 to go to New Zealand, filling a repeat order. Lougheed Bros., Bowden, got \$3,500 for Bright Mixer 3rd, sold to W. J. Edgar.

A sidelight on the splendid rivalry between the two premier Hereford herds is that the herdsman at the two farms are brothers, John Hay at Nanton, and George Hay at Innisfail. Another brother Bill, has a ranch of his own west of Nanton. The three boys emigrated from Aberdeenshire where their father was a feeder of commercial cattle.

THE Shorthorn sale brought out 171 bulls which sold for an average of \$372.77, nearly 10 per cent better than last year's \$340. Two of them reached the top price of \$1,300, T. G. Hamilton, Innisfail, on Rannoch Gallant Leader, sold to A. and D. Dickie, Lamont; and the University of Alberta on Victor's Hero U.A. sold to Yellowlees Bros., Crossfield.

Aberdeen-Angus breeders contributed 94 bulls which sold for the very satisfactory average of \$371.81, slightly better than last year's average which was a record for the breed. Top price was realized by that perennial winner, Roy Ballhorn, Wetaskiwin, on Woodland Blackcap P sold to Jas. Scott and Sons, Conrich.

Following are the placings in the three beef breeds:

Hereford bulls, calved in 1946 on or after July 1: 1, W. J. Edgar, Innisfail; 2, J. Allan Baker, Cayley; 3, Lougheed Brothers, Bowden; 4, W. J. Edgar, Innisfail; 5, E. A. Price, Crossfield; 6, T. Butterfield, Ponoka.

Hereford bulls, calved in 1946 before

July 1: 1, W. A. Crawford-Frost, Nanton; 2, W. A. Crawford-Frost, Nanton; 3, Lougheed Brothers, Bowden; 4, W. A. Crawford-Frost, Nanton; 5, W. A. Crawford-Frost, Nanton; 6, T. Hughes, High River.

Hereford bulls, calved in 1945 or before: 1, J. A. Hole, Airdrie; 2, Kendall Stock Company, Kew; 3, Mrs. Pearl Bohannon, Garfield; 4, A. Wallace, Pibroch.

Champion Hereford bull: W. A. Crawford-Frost, Nanton.

Reserve Champion: W. J. Edgar, Innisfail.

Hereford bulls, any age, bred by exhibitor: Won by W. J. Edgar, Innisfail.

Best Three Hereford bulls, any age, bred by exhibitor: 1, W. A. Crawford-Frost, Nanton; 2, W. J. Edgar, Innisfail; 3, Lougheed Brothers, Bowden; 4, Hunter Brothers, Macleod.

Best Five Hereford bulls, any age, bred by exhibitor: 1, W. A. Crawford-Frost, Nanton; 2, W. J. Edgar, Innisfail; 3, Lougheed Brothers, Bowden; 4, Hunter Brothers, Macleod; 5, Mrs. Celta Cole and Sons, Redlands.

Shorthorn bull, calved in 1947 on or before April 1: 1, Black, Lougheed; 2, J. W. Manuel, Innisfail; 3, E. J. C. Boake and Sons, Acme; 4, R. L. Woods, Sheerness; 5, E. J. C. Boake and Sons, Acme; 6, Dahm and Sons, Rockyford; 7, Wm. Swanson, Delia.

Shorthorn bull calved in 1946 on or after July 1: 1, T. G. Hamilton, Innisfail; 2, T. G. Hamilton, Innisfail; 3, T. G. Hamilton, Innisfail; 4, T. G. Hamilton, Innisfail; 5, W. L. Robinson, Vermilion; 6, Morison Brothers, Innisfail.

Shorthorn bull calved in 1946 before July 1: 1, University of Alberta, Edmonton; 2, University of Alberta, Edmonton; 3, A. Snyder, Didsbury; 4, University of Alberta, Edmonton; 5, J. Hassard, Rivercourse; 6, Floyd Bolduc, Travers.

Shorthorn bull calved in 1945 or before: 1, W. Darlington and Son, Hespere; 2, W. G. Heaver, DeWinton; 3, Wm. Swanson, Delia; 4, Roland Recknagle, Wetaskiwin; 5, C. F. Madge, Richdale; 6, Ralph W. Bliss, Olds.

Champion Shorthorn bull, any age: Champion—T. G. Hamilton, Innisfail.

Reserve Champion: University of Alberta, Edmonton.

Aberdeen Angus bull calved in 1947 on or before April 1: 1, J. Dobinson and Son, Clive; 2, A. Murphy, Altario; 3, Alex Ingram, Midnapore; 4, E. P. Berg, Millicent.

Aberdeen Angus bull calved in 1946 on or after July 1: 1, Roy Ballhorn, Wetaskiwin; 2, Roy Ballhorn, Wetaskiwin; 3, W. E. Cross, Vermilion; 4, Smith Brothers, Talbot; 5, W. E. Cross, Vermilion; 6, Arrowwood Farming Company, Arrowwood.

Aberdeen Angus bull calved in 1946, before July 1: 1, Wm. Gibb, Killam; 2, University of Alberta, Edmonton; 3, H. R. Milner, Edmonton; 4, W. E. Cross, Vermilion; 5, Thos. Henderson, Lambe; 6, A. Jamieson, Chin.

Aberdeen Angus bull calved in 1945 or before: 1, Archie Chiswell, Lacombe.

Champion Aberdeen Angus bull: Champion—Wm. Gibb, Killam.

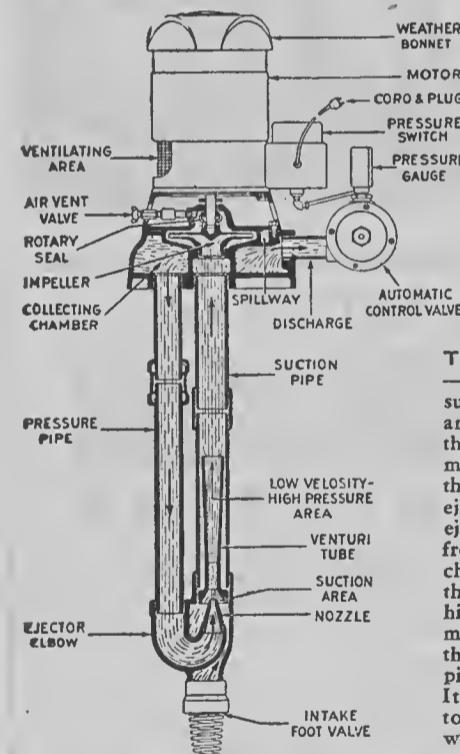
Reserve Champion—Roy Ballhorn, Wetaskiwin.



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What of the U.S. Market?

Canadian farmers look hopefully southward to a huge market, which may more than tax the normal ability of U.S. farmers to fill

CANADA has always looked longingly at the huge United States market for farm products. Since wheat, however, has been our major export farm product for so long, and since Britain has been the world's steadiest customer for foodstuffs, Canada has looked to Britain chiefly because the market was there for any country which could supply the necessary food at competitive prices. The United States market has been harder to get into because of tariffs and because the United States is herself a very large and very successful producer of farm products.

The population of the United States, however, has been growing rapidly, and has, in fact, increased by 12 million since 1940, or at the rate of about one and one-half million per year. Due also to the increased prosperity brought about by the war, the American people are eating 15 per cent more per person than in pre-war years. This fact, added to the increase of population, means that the total food consumption in the United States is about one-fourth more than in pre-war. It is calculated that the increase in population will continue for some years to come, at the rate of about a million or more per year.

At the present time, of course, United States farm prices are very high, which makes that market all the more attractive. This is due not only to the fact that purchasing power in the United States is very high because of unprecedented prosperity, but also because European and other countries look to the United States for food which they are not now able to produce for themselves. As a result, the United States is now exporting far more farm products than pre-war. During the last two years, this export has amounted to eight or nine per cent of total farm output; whereas before the war, not more than three per cent of total farm production was exported. If we remember that farm output in the United States increased by about one-third during the war, this increased percentage of total output is all the more significant. One example is wheat, which before the war was exported only to the extent of about eight per cent of a crop running in the neighborhood of about 800 or 900 million bushels. In 1946, the United States exported about 26 per cent of a crop considerably in excess of one billion bushels.

Finally, it must be remembered that though the United States normally does not export a high percentage of her farm production, the export market is nevertheless important because it does provide an outlet for any excess quantities produced from year to year. While these surplus quantities often must be sold at lower prices on foreign markets, the over-all effect on U.S. farm economy is not particularly great.

The chances are that the United States will continue to export very substantial quantities of foodstuffs in Europe during the next few years, while the so-called Marshall Plan (more correctly known as the European Recovery Program) is in operation. When Europe is able to become more self-sufficient agriculturally, she will undoubtedly reduce her food imports from the United States.

MECHANIZATION has greatly increased farm production in the United States and it is estimated that since 1918, the crop land and pasture released for other purposes than feed for horses, has been enough to feed about 19 million head of cattle and calves in 1947, while the saving in grain was enough to feed about 25 million hogs to market weight. Many other fac-

tors are involved, such as the use of hybrid corn, the application of lime and commercial fertilizer, the addition of labor-saving machinery as well as a gradual shift from grass hay to legume hay over the past 25 years. This latter change alone has added about 40 per cent to the amount of total digestible proteins available to animals from the hay fed to them. During the war, also, more intertilled crops such as corn, soybeans and peanuts were grown, which added to farm output, and additional land was put into crops which had previously been idle.

This increase in production efficiency may be expected to continue for a considerable time. Nevertheless, there are some indications that with a return to more normal demand for farm products, farmers in the United States will make some changes in cropping practice, which will tend to cut down total production. In some areas, notably in the Corn Belt states where about 11 million more acres were put into intertilled crops, it will be necessary to secure a better balance between these crops and hay and pasture. In order to protect the soil, more acres must be put back to grass. This may be hastened by the fact that the western range country will only carry so many animals and if the demand for livestock continues at high levels, more cattle may be grown in the corn belt and southern states if low costs per unit can be achieved.

Likewise, the demand for fluid milk, while strong, has not yet resulted in the production of sufficient to meet total needs. The recent increase in the birth rate has added to that group in the population who drink milk. Dairy products will probably continue in a strong position and may demand enough more acres that some other kind of livestock may be cut down. It is calculated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that the total capacity of grazing land and acreage devoted to harvested forage under present methods is probably not more than about 82 million roughage-consuming animal units which is very little above what would have been reached in the past.

The department says that "Farm output will tend to stay high in the next few years even if prices fall somewhat. Farm production is much more responsive to the upward pull of good prices and better practices than to the downward shove of depression. A big part of farmer's costs are fixed costs. Now that farmers have gone into more systems of productive farming, they will tend to keep on with those systems."

Wheat acreage in the United States is now about at capacity. Five million more acres in the Great Plains area have been added to seeded wheat since 1944. To achieve this, summerfallow decreased about two million acres in the past two years, and an additional three million acres of land has been plowed up that is risky for crop. It is expected that after the present food emergency is over U.S. wheat exports may not be more than 100 to 150 million bushels.

THE upward trend in cattle numbers began in 1938 and grew at an astounding pace during 1940-43. Weather conditions were favorable and the capacity of grazing land was pushed to the limit. However, the upward trend was ended in 1944 and 1945, so that during 1945 and 1946 cattle numbers decreased by 4½ million head, and by a further 2½ million head in 1947. At January 1, 1948, the cattle population was down to 78½ million, the lowest level since 1942.

Sheep are also at the lowest ebb in 80 years, having decreased by one-third or about 19 million head from 1942 to

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the end of 1947. It is not expected that sheep numbers will increase very much during the next two years, while cattle numbers may not begin to climb again for two or three years.

A roughage-consuming animal unit is considered to be the equivalent of one milk cow; and the safe capacity of the United States is calculated to be about 82 million roughage-consuming animal units at the present time. A decade from now, with average weather conditions and if horses and mules continue to shrink in numbers, capacity might be about 90 million cattle and calves, 40 million sheep and six million work stock. Since cattle and sheep are at a comparatively low point now, it will take approximately six to eight years to build their numbers up, especially cattle, to the next productive cycle. It is calculated that to stop the present downward trend in cattle numbers it would mean withholding about six million cattle and calves from slaughter, or about one-sixth as many as were slaughtered in 1947.

FEED grain capacity in the U.S. is figured to be about 115 million tons. This amount would support approximately 170 million grain-consuming animal units which could consist of about 90 million head of cattle (including 30 million milk cows) 40 million stock sheep, five to six million horses and mules, 12 per cent more poultry and from 90 to 95 million head of pigs. This livestock population would produce approximately 24 billion pounds of meat, not including poultry, or about 155 pounds per capita for 155 million people.

Consumer supplies of meat in the U.S. are expected to be at their lowest ebb in August of this year, according to some calculations, and it is reasonable to think that this would be a good time to begin entering the American market with Canadian farm products under the terms of the new Geneva Trade Pact. While the principal farm commodities in the United States are now above parity, and will continue to be supported at 90 per cent of parity for the remainder of this year, heavy imports of Canadian farm products will probably not be welcomed either by American farmers or the American government.

On the other hand, the quantities which Canada would be likely to export to the American market would not be too significant in proportion to the numbers and quantities produced there. We will, undoubtedly, continue to export substantial quantities to Britain, but the new and lower tariff under the Geneva Trade Pact will always be tempting to Canadian exporters, as soon as the American market is opened to them. This attraction will apply not only to live cattle, but to dressed beef and probably to hogs, and dairy products in considerable variety.

Another factor which may promise a more reliable market in the United States is the current comment and growing feeling favorable to something like economic union between Canada and the United States. This is an entirely different thing from political union, which is not being considered anywhere in responsible quarters.

The possibilities of the American market for Canadian farm products are therefore somewhat uncertain, though hopeful. All we could spare of any product would probably not hurt the American farmer to any noticeable degree by depressing prices. We must look to the United States eventually for our beef market, but even this is not likely to materialize on a large scale as long as Britain stands badly in need of Canadian beef, and livestock prices are tied to an artificial wheat price which makes it possible to ship dressed beef to Britain.

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The Ferruginous Rough-Legged Hawk.

In Case You Dislike Gophers

It will pay you to befriend this feathered friend

By DAN McCOWAN

Of the many species of hawks hovering over the wheat fields of Western Canada by far the most beneficial to the farmer is that known as the Ferruginous Rough-leg. Largest and most powerful of the hawks native to the prairie provinces it is well worthy of the name *Regalis*, bestowed upon it by scientists. To all gophers between Red River and the Rockies it is a standing menace and but for its activities in thinning the ranks of these destructive rodents the grain growers of that region would certainly sustain more heavy loss.

The normal ration of an adult gopher billeted on a prairie farm amounts, roughly, to one bushel of wheat annually. Between seed time and harvest each family of Roughleg hawks, the parents and say four young, will probably account for between four and five hundred gophers with an occasional raid on meadow mice. One does not have to be a mathematician to realize that the yearly crop return is largely increased by the presence of these splendid hawks which, all summer long, patrol the farmer's fields.

A further important entry on the credit side of the Roughleg ledger is that birds of this species seldom if ever attack poultry. They occasionally kill and eat snakes and have been known to successfully tilt at jack rabbits and even at a skunk but, lacking ground-squirrel meat, life for them would indeed be austere. Like the coyotes they are fond of hunting in pairs, one member of the team purposely flying in plain sight of the upstanding derisive gophers whilst the other swoops suddenly from the rear to grab an unsuspecting victim by the scruff of the neck.

As the common name would indicate, these birds are clad in rust-brown plumage over most of the body. The under parts are light in color and the legs are heavily feathered. From the time that the downy chick is hatched until it is about four years old the plumage varies slightly in color and more so in design—

in fact while attaining adult growth the immature bird may be furnished with no fewer than four new suits of the same cut but of different pattern.

Roughleg hawks usually nest in trees or on high cut-banks, the structure being formed of large coarse sticks and lined with dry grass or shredded bark from dead poplar trees. In the body of almost every Roughleg nest a chunk of dry cow dung may be found, the use and purpose of this unusual nest-building material being a mystery to all save the architects themselves. The average number of eggs in a clutch is four, these being hatched by both parent birds in turn. The process occupies a period of about one month and the young remain in the nest until able to fly, generally in seven or eight weeks. For some time thereafter they continue in company with father and mother during which time they are well schooled in deportment and in the all-important business of gaining a livelihood.

RARELY does a Roughleg remain on the plains of western Canada through the winter. When straw stacks were prominent on almost every farm a few of the birds may there have nabbed a few mice during the season of snow but, since the advent of the combine, millions of these nimble rodents have been denied former good winter quarters and driven to seek shelter elsewhere. Most of these large hawks go south when the gophers den up and from then until about the end of March are on leave of absence from the stubble fields and poplar bluffs between Winnipeg and Calgary.

Were it not for the irresponsible gunner to whom all large birds present easy and tempting targets there would be many more Roughleg hawks and consequently fewer gophers on the wheat fields of the West. True, these great birds of prey do occasionally destroy a meadowlark. When all is said and done, that is a minor fault which may well be overlooked.

Peg-Legged Goose



THE accompanying picture of the goose with the wooden leg comes from R. D. Barrett-Lennard, with the following story. The goose became entangled in barbed wire and struggled so violently that it freed itself before anyone could reach it, leaving the leg behind. Its owner, Mrs. Broadhurst, had a limb made of elder wood with the pith taken out. The remaining loose flesh was carefully grafted over it and left to grow over the new limb. Eggs laid by the goose since its recovery could not be hatched by it. They were placed under a hen and all hatched save one.

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Accidents in Nature

By DAVID GUNSTON

NATURE has her accidents as well as mankind. The processes of instinct sometimes let wild creatures down, and there occur tragedies and mishaps, nearly always fatal, of which strange examples are discovered from time to time.

Birds seem particularly unfortunate. Take the kestrel hawk, for instance, which dived to attack some small birds on a bush, missed its aim by an inch or two, and impaled itself on a stout thorny twig, as neatly as if it had been shot by an archer. Just as unlucky was the heron which slipped from a branch near its nest and got its head stuck in a fork of the tree, from where it just could not free itself, dying from sheer starvation. There are many cases known of birds impaling themselves, getting caught on branches or twigs, stunning themselves by colliding with trees, wires, walls, windows, aircraft and other birds in mid-air, even breaking their legs or necks when landing on icy surfaces or frozen water.

Loose strands of hair or wool often cause bird deaths, chiefly among those which walk a lot on the ground. Rooks, crows, jackdaws, starlings and many more sometimes get their legs so firmly entangled with sheep's wool that they become helpless, and ultimately, like all helpless and frightened creatures, die from hunger and exhaustion. Young birds may fail to leave their nests when their legs or feet get entwined with horse-hair from the nest-lining. A young chaffinch was once found thus; it was hanging upside down suspended by a six-inch long hair from its nest, quite dead.

The cuckoo also courts disaster by its parasitic habits. One hen cuckoo laid her egg inside the nest of a small foster-parent bird inside a rotten tree-stump, dropping it through the tiny opening. When the young cuckoo was full-grown, it could not leave the nest through this small opening, and its mummified remains were found inside the tree long afterwards.

COLLISIONS of various kinds are a frequent cause of death. Birds have been known to collide with one another in flight, although this is rare. Fatal results on both sides are generally the outcome of such happenings. Among the animals, hares, rabbits and similar small creatures frequently collide with their own kind, with unexpected obstacles they did not see in time, and with dogs, usually to receive (and often give) broken necks. Kangaroos have a fatal habit of looking back over their shoulder when pursued, and commonly rush headlong into immobile objects when travelling at high speed.

Small thorns and prickles and coarse wiry grasses take their toll of small creatures like squirrels, mice, voles and so on, and also among lions, tigers, leopards and the other big cats. The small animals cannot get free from them, but the larger ones find thorns and prickles a great danger if they get them into their soft pads. The proverbial thorn in the lion's foot is a very real happening, crippling the great beasts so that they cannot hunt.

Greedy and voracious creatures frequently choke themselves through trying to swallow prey too large for their gullets. Herons and gannets take fish too big for them, with dire results, while many carnivorous fish, notably pike and sharks, do the same, often being found with fish of almost equal dimensions lodged in their mouths by the fins. Two dead pike were once found of exactly identical size, one struck inextricably in the jaws of the other.

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PEACE TIME PILOTS

Continued from page 37

more. He wondered how much he could buy them for here. He got his first skin for \$5.00. When he took it to a tannery in Edmonton, he learned it would cost \$35.00 to process it. The tanner offered him \$150 for the unfinished skin. The flyer refused. Today he is doing a steady and prosperous business in bear skins, making a good little pile out of the hobby.

To these boys who fly the northland skies—successors to the famous "bush flyers" of 20 years ago—life holds no dullness. There are sick missionaries to be brought out against hazardous odds. There are prospectors who, after years of isolation, have struck it rich and who give the boys who fly them out a sack of dust. There are strange, wild territories to fly over, if one has his own plane—wilderness barrens where white men have never been.

There is a lift to such living, evidenced in the faces of the north country flyers. Good guys, generous guys, clean and daring and helpful, they found the ground too weary and the line fences too many. Now they travel the uncharted seas of the sky, with God as their co-pilot and their strong youth to carry them through.

Income Tax Change

Under certain circumstances net worth statement not required

THE Guide and other publications which protested at the net worth statement included on page 5 of the new income tax form will be as gratified as the large numbers of farmers affected at the statement issued by Hon. J. J. McCann, Minister of National Revenue, on March 19. According to this announcement, farmers who report taxable income based on cash actually received and cash expenses actually paid out during the calendar year, will not be required to fill out the net worth statement incorporated for the first time in the 1947 income tax form. Those farmers who report income on an accrual basis will still be required to submit a statement of assets and liabilities, or to complete the appropriate parts of the net worth statement.

In this month when interest in income tax is high the department of national revenue is trying to induce farmers to write in asking for free copies of their farm account book. It ought to be a tremendous help in making up subsequent income tax returns. The first part of the book is made up of explanatory information, designed to meet the difficulties which farmers usually run into. Pages and columns for accounts are numbered to correspond with items on the income tax form itself. Other portions of the book deal with the Basic Herd plan, and the three-year average plan.

The account book arises out of the experience of the department. It has learned that many farmers are overwhelmed with the bookkeeping aspects of their job. In innumerable instances it has had to prepare farmers' statements for them. It would be impossible for the department to raise its staff to the size required to call on every farmer. The next best job is to devise a book which is keyed to the tax form, and this is what is now being offered free.

It looks like too much of a good thing, and the tax branch is expecting that many farmers will not apply for the book on this account. However, there are no strings attached, and the farmer who receives a book is in no way obligated thereby.

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"A few years ago, I had a very severe attack of Sciatica in my left leg," writes Mrs. T. A. Beacon, 467 Vitre St. W., Montreal. "The leg and hip bothered me for 2 or 3 weeks. Then I was suddenly stricken with a pain as sharp as a knife driving through the flesh of my leg. The cords seemed to shorten up, so that I couldn't keep my leg straight, but could reach the floor only with the toes of my left foot. My leg was so stiff and I ached so much, I could hardly get about. When a friend recommended T-R-C's, I was eager to try them. I am glad I did, for T-R-C's brought me quick relief from pain and stiffness."

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Ex-Lax can be given to the children with complete confidence. Although it has a fine chocolate taste, its action is thorough and dependable.

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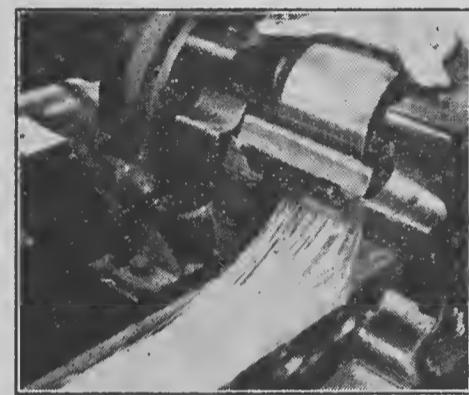
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BREAKFAST IN-A-HURRY

Continued from page 10.

layer the strands fall from each pair of rollers until at the end of the long machine they have piled up to the proper thickness—one endless shredded wheat biscuit. These are then cut into appropriate lengths, baked, cooled and packaged. Many of the other wheat products are variants, the difference being that the shreds are made into different shapes.

Flaked wheat cereals, into which more and more wheat has gone in recent years, also demand special care in processing. To make them, wheat grains are cooked by steam pressure, alone first and then with added flavoring. High speed rollers exerting great pressure flake the wheat which is next conveyed to large rotary ovens, kept at



Rollers pressing wheat into delicate strands in the manufacture of Nabisco Shredded Wheat.

an even, high temperature. The flakes are toasted to the appetizing golden-brown color familiar to thousands of consumers.

FIRST of all the prepared breakfast foods was "Force," popularized about 50 years ago by "Sunny Jim," that absurd, yellow-coated optimist whose unrestrained energy came from eating the stuff he advocated. Since that day corn products have been among the leading breakfast foods, and Canadians today are eating about 30 million pounds of corn flakes.

Here again white dent corn gets the nod for the same reason as white wheat. And that presents the manufacturers with a similar raw material supply problem. For white dent corn has been passing out of the picture both in Canada and the U.S. At one time 60 per cent of the American crop was yellow and 40 per cent white. Then Henry Wallace and the agricultural college men began producing high yielding hybrid varieties. All the first breeding work was done with yellow corn, and done so successfully that today less than five per cent of the American crop is white. Canadian manufacturers have at times had to resort to importation from South Africa and South America to meet their needs.

That is all changed now. Realizing that one American manufacturer of corn flakes alone bought a million bushels of white corn annually, the breeders went to work to produce white hybrids no less desirable from a farmer's point of view than the tall corn of Iowa. A leading Canadian manufacturer established a subsidiary in 1946, White Hybrid Corn Producers' Ltd., with head office at Chatham, whose function is to promote the introduction of the new white hybrids into Canada. This company has succeeded in contracting 20,000 acres with 1,875 farmers. It handled a million bushels of last year's crop, and is looking forward to

double that amount including export, as well as to free Canadian food manufacturers from the risks attendant on foreign and overseas supplies. The company has built one of the largest corn dryers on the continent at Chatham capable of drying 4,000 bushels a day.

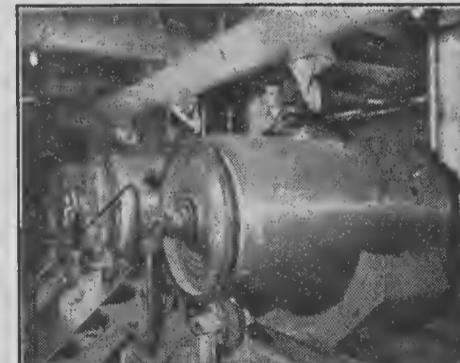
MAYBE this corn development is of no immediate interest to western Canada. But keep this in your mental background. Corn has made great strides in Manitoba over the last decade. War-time average production was over a million bushels a year. And just as Red Fife was superseded by earlier wheat, so will Manitoba's present corn varieties give way in due course to earlier sorts, expanding the corn belt and enabling the West perhaps to share in this lucrative breakfast cereal market.

The processing of corn into breakfast flakes is relatively simple. The corn is cleaned, degerninated and the bran removed. In this state it is called Pearl Hominy. It is then flavored with salt, sugar and malt and thoroughly cooked under steam pressure for about two and one-half hours. After this comes drying to a given moisture content and curing for 10 to 12 hours, after which it is rolled. Each kernel emerges from the massive steel rollers as a single flake, and many of them remain unbroken in the subsequent processes of toasting and packaging.

All of the 20 odd breakfast foods made in Canada are from home-grown cereals with the exception of a small number of rice products, some of which rank high in consumer preference. While the Canadian farmer isn't interested in these as a raw material supplier, he will be intrigued as a consumer with one current development dating from the imposition of trade restrictions by the government last November, because it illustrates clearly the protectionist aspects of Mr. Abbott's program.

RICE for Canadian breakfast foods comes from the U.S. in these times of world-wide grain shortage. It goes into international trade in two forms, cleaned rice or paddy rice. Imports of paddy rice coming into Canada must go through one of two mills, one in Vancouver, one in Montreal. Mr. Abbott's trade restrictions forbid the importation of cleaned rice but allow paddy rice to come in. The effect of this regulation is to deliver a virtual monopoly over to the two mills in Canada.

During the war, manufacturers of breakfast foods looked forward confidently to the expansion of the export business, for the West Indies, South Africa, and Great Britain were learning to



Cookers used in the manufacture of flaked wheat at the Kellogg mill, London, Ont.

diversify their meals by the inclusion of these tasty products. Alas, the slow speed of post-war recovery has blasted these hopes. But this industry looks forward with assurance notwithstanding. It knows that the consumption of its product is a barometer of living standards. Whatever advance there is, domestic or foreign, the industry must inevitably share.

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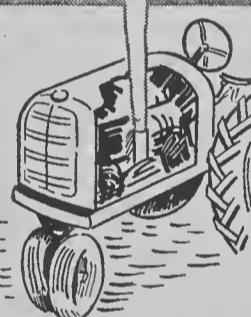


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HOROSCOPE

Continued from page 13

monetization, to any extent desirable, the real wealth of the unit, so that it can be freely exchanged."

Members of the legislature at that time professed to being slightly puzzled by this explanation, but the late Mr. Aberhart soon broke it down into language that the rank and file could understand. It was brief but it was potent—"Dividends of \$25 per month and a lower cost to live."

THE Social Credit movement was launched in Alberta at a time when the province was facing its worst economic crisis in history.

It had its birth in the "hungry thirties," when wheat was being produced and sold below cost. Cattle were selling for four and a half cents per pound on the hoof, and in the cities one could shoot a cannon down the main aisle of the big department stores without the risk of hitting a soul. The world was in the midst of a tragic economic depression, and Alberta suffered with the rest.

It was then that the voice of William Aberhart resounded through the province. The big bluff, Calgary high school teacher had been preaching the philosophy of Social Credit for some time. He had preached to little fireside groups during the week and on Sundays in the auditorium of the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute of which he was the founder.

One of the first to realize the value of radio to reach the rural areas, he obtained a long-term contract with a Calgary radio station, and week after week he preached Social Credit to all who cared to listen.

It was a strange mixture of religion and politics, and his words fell on fertile soil. Impoverished farmers sat in their farm homes on Sunday afternoons and listened in rapt attention as Mr. Aberhart blasted the "50 big shots," the "financiers who are slowly strangling the common people to death."

In those days, hungry Albertans were willing to believe anything. Down at Gopher Prairie, Joe Doakes counted his brood of kids, multiplied them at the rate of \$25 per month and shouted, "Maw, we're rich!"

Throughout the length and breadth of the province, the philosophy of Social Credit spread like wildfire. Every district in the city had its own little Social Credit group. The lamps in thousands of school houses in the country districts shone brightly as rural groups completed their election plans . . .

Then came August, 1934. Albertans went to the polls in their thousands, and 12 hours later the greatest upset in Canadian political history had been recorded. The Social Credit party had captured 50 of the 55 seats in the Alberta legislature. The U.F.A. government, which had ruled from 1921 to 1935, had been completely whipped. The combined opposition had only five seats between them.

ANALYSIS of the political record of the Social Credit administration during the past 12 years discloses many strange happenings both within and outside of the party.

Before the government was a year old, Premier Aberhart faced a serious party revolt—a revolt which was carried to the floor of the legislature and which almost resulted in the defeat of the government in the summer of 1937. The rebels and the combined opposition were only two votes away from defeating the government on the floor of the assembly. In order to avoid defeat, the Premier

withdrew the budget and in the recess that followed, Major C. H. Douglas dispatched two of his lieutenants, C. H. Powell and L. D. Byrne in response to a government S.O.S. call. The revolt collapsed following the arrival in Edmonton of Messrs. Powell and Byrne and before the next session of the legislature, the government backbenchers were required to sign a "loyalty pledge."

Powell went to jail several months later following his conviction on a criminal libel charge in connection with his activities as a government "trouble shooter" and later returned to England, while Byrne remained as Social Credit adviser to the government. Cause of the party revolt was attributed to the lack

they are quite willing to swing along with it until some major issue develops which might result in the need for a change of government.

There are indications that many voters in the rural areas are still supporters of the Social Credit theory and are still hopeful that at some future date it may be possible to pay the monthly dividend as promised by the late Premier Aberhart in the early days of the regime.

The developments of the past few weeks in party ranks would indicate that the Manning administration has turned its back quite definitely on the Douglas Social Credit theory.

The dismissed minister, R. E. Ansley, (Leduc), was one of those who had stuck steadfastly to the belief that Major C. H. Douglas held the key to the whole Social Credit situation. He had been given considerable support in this connection by L. D. Byrne.

Several members of the now defunct Social Credit Board also were strong supporters of the Master of Fig Tree Court, and the party purge, carried out by Premier Manning several weeks ago, pretty well cleaned out the followers of the doughty Major from key positions in the government.

This has given rise to belief in some political circles that the Manning administration, as it now stands, is in effect, a coalition party of the right. In this connection, political observers expressed more than a little interest in the incident which occurred in the House of Commons a short time ago when a C.C.F. member suggested that the Social Credit party was really the Conservative party in disguise, a charge quickly denied by Solon Low.

There is a growing feeling in Alberta political circles that a provincial election may be at least a year away.

CERTAINLY the government is in no position to conduct a successful election campaign at the present time. It is involved in a criminal libel suit against an eastern magazine publication which is due to come to trial any time now. The government's child welfare administration is under review by a Royal Commission headed by Chief Justice W. R. Howson of the Alberta supreme court, and the public hearings to date have attracted world-wide attention.

The legislature has also voted in favor of a thorough investigation of the government's treasury branch or private bank system by the Agriculture committee of the Legislative Assembly.

The government's fire-eating minister of public works, the Hon. W. A. Fallow, for years the administration's most vociferous champion both in and outside of the legislature, is broken in health and has not attended the current session.

There is just one silver lining in the cloud that seems to be hanging over the government and that is the absence of a real issue on which opponents of the government can fight a successful election.

The opposition thought they had it prior to the 1945 elections on the basis of the government's autocratic introduction of the enlarged school districts and enlarged municipal districts. However, the Social Crediters captured all the rural seats, so there was no real issue there.

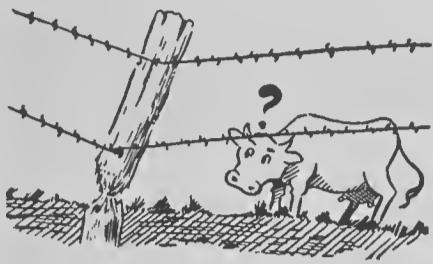
Since that time, the Social Crediters have repaired their political fences; free maternity care for expectant mothers; free cancer diagnosis clinics, a supplementary increase of two dollars per month in the old age pension allowance to bring the monthly pension up to \$37 per month; increased appropriations for hospitals and schools; re-



Buckingham Palace gateway, looking out.

[Photo by G. C. Bloomfield.

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It is only when it comes to provincial politics that Albertans can be considered just a little queer. And because the voting population of the province, collectively, has puzzled mental analysts, it would take a brave man indeed to predict the future of the Alberta Social Credit party.

Canine Mailman

Remembered at Niagara 260 years later

By JOHN W. FLEMING

THIS is the short short story of a pioneer puppy who played an intriguing role in the early days of the white man's development of territory destined later to become the boundary area of two great neighbor nations, Canada and the United States.

Born 260 years ago at Fort Denonville, today historic Fort Niagara, N.Y., this puppy won fame as a canine mailman and messenger, became the founder of the dog-post, and was recently honored by the Buffalo (N.Y.) Kennel Club.

It was in 1688 that Captain Raymond Blaise Desbergeres de Rigouville took his beloved dog, Vingt-Sous (Twenty Cents to you), with him and his party sent to rescue the beleaguered French force at Fort Denonville, besieged by hostile Iroquois Indians.

The captain's stay at the fort was short. His orders were to rescue the garrison, raze the fort, and leave. But during his short stay a puppy was born to Vingt-Sous, and the soldiers promptly named him Monsieur de Niagara.

When the captain left Fort Denonville in ruins and proceeded to his next assignment, a French military post named Champlain, near Lake Champlain, he took Monsieur de Niagara with him. At Champlain the puppy soon acquired a friendly habit of running through the forests primeval to a nearby post, La Prairie de la Madelaine, near Montreal, to visit another dog.

The late Frank H. Severance, noted American historian, in one of his books, *An Old Frontier of France*, tells us all that is known of the pioneer puppy. He wrote in part as follows:

"Seeing that he went and came faithfully, the soldiers fastened letters to his collar which never failed of delivery. In this way was established the dog-post which was so useful and became so famous that Desbergeres applied to the intendant at Quebec for the allowance of a daily ration for Monsieur de Niagara, and it was granted.

"Furthermore, Monsieur de Niagara was formally added to the garrison list and at roll call would reply, or, if absent, some soldier would reply for him, 'en course' or 'a la chasse.' It is significant that for a number of years after his death his name was called daily and a soldier answered for him, 'a la chasse'."

Recently the pioneer puppy was honored by the Buffalo Kennel Club with the creation in his name of the Monsieur de Niagara Awards to be granted annually to "worthy sons and daughters" of the historic puppy of the Niagara Frontier.

At the close of the Kennel Club's annual show, a club official, designated as Monsieur de Niagara's sponsor, answers with the historic "a la chasse" as the dog's name is solemnly pronounced at formal roll call.

Two dog owners are permitted to reply "ici" ("here") as their prize-winning pets' names are called. Fittingly, the first Monsieur de Niagara Awards were made by a Frenchman, Paul Speyser, former French Consul at Buffalo.

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Tree-bordered highway—no drifts.

Tree Belts and Winter Traffic

Indiscriminate clearing leads to impassable roads

By C. E. CRADDOCK

TODAY with modern clearing equipment, the bush is being slaughtered indiscriminately, and to make matters worse, clearing operations are carried out right up to the line of road and highway. This latter act or fact makes great additional expense to the Department of Highways of the province.

One thoughtless or improvident farmer can tie up all transportation over perhaps 50 miles, because the wind has blown the snow off his field and blocked the road. Each time this strip is plowed or bulldozed it becomes a deeper job after the next blow. Had this man left a generous strip of bush along the margin of his field the snow would have been kept off the road.

Furthermore, a system of tree belts breaks up the sweeping hot winds in summer. The grey, wooded soil of the north dries out very quickly and quite thoroughly and blows more enthusiastically than does the prairie soil. And erosion! That soil erodes faster than the average bank account.

It would be interesting to know what complex, if any, prompts men to clear land so thoroughly. Farmers on the prairie work hard to grow trees, those in the North quite the reverse. Some no doubt like to make a nice clean job, others figure that every acre is taxed so every acre must produce.

It has been shown that leaving it to their common sense just doesn't work. If, on the other hand, the government made a regulation to enforce the maintenance of a tree belt along highways and roads, the cry would go up "Compulsion." With human nature what it is, there comes the time when compulsion is the only way to save humans, in this case, from agricultural suicide. The land deteriorates, erosion increases, roads are blocked, the water table is lowered, and not the least, the scenic effect is spoilt for all.

IT is very gratifying when passing through the country to see even the occasional strip of trees left. It shows that some of our minority are on the job, and example is better than precept. When we came north, quite a number

of years ago, settlement and land clearing were a negligible quantity. We had 16 miles to get to the homestead. I often thought it was 60. We followed an old logging road for the first four miles, three of which were on the township line and ran through the tall timber. This made one feel somewhat like a rabbit on a well-worn run in a wheat field, with the sky visible only overhead.

Today this road, now part of the highway, is cleared on both sides, just like the dear old bald-headed prairie. But just a minute! I must pay tribute to two men along this strip; they belong to our minority, and are to be commended. They have left a fringe of trees and I thank them for it.

In the winter the usual extreme clearing becomes an economical nuisance. One drives along in comfort over a well-plowed or packed road, everything looks bright. The truck driver figures he will be in town for dinner. The farmer feels he will be home in time to do the chores before supper. The traveller decides he can get in, do his business, and get out, but in their several calculations they have forgotten "X," the unknown quantity.

In this case, it is the farmer who hired that power outfit and pushed all those trees over, and when the above travellers arrive at the spot to find four or five feet of snow one way, and half a mile of snow the other way, their feelings are scarcely neighborly to the tree buster whose actions have caused this hold-up, and their verbal efforts do more than border on the profane, that is if they are human. So, farmers, when you decide that you want to be able to see who is passing along the highway, curb your curiosity and your destructive inclinations. Leave some trees, even a few belts across the larger fields, to hold snow and check those sultry summer zephyrs.

As a final suggestion to our lawmakers. Why not a lower rate of taxes or easier assessment be made available for those who co-operate to maintain tree belts, or reverse the idea and increase these rates to those who act so remorselessly to some of our best friends, the trees?



An over-zealous job of brush clearing—drifts to buck all winter.
Illustrations by the author.

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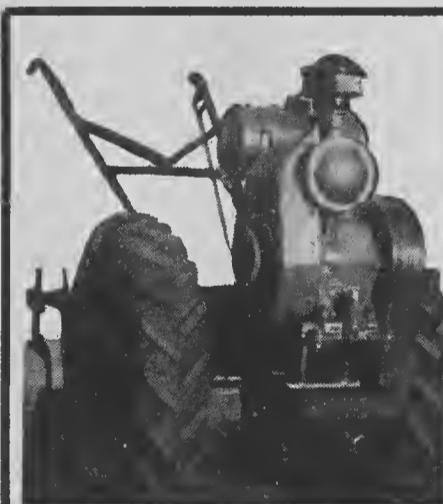
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The Farmer and Daylight Saving

J. W. Gallenkamp presents the farmer's viewpoint on this endless feud between town and country

HOWEVER, one can get used to anything in time, and we only felt a trifle vexed when we found ourselves stacking hay at about midnight according to our cockeyed clock.

Everyone has heard dozens of unanswerable arguments against daylight saving. But that one about the kids not wanting to go to bed when it is so light is a little far-fetched. Who ever heard of a healthy child ever wanting to go to bed, whatever the time was?

However, let's be fair. There are always two sides to every question. The right side which you and I are on and the wrong side that the other fellow supports. But I ask you, has anyone ever heard of a reasonable argument put up by the other side for messing about with the clock? Unless you take into account the squawks of tired business men who want to get out into the wide open spaces of an evening to be welcomed by a hoard of thirsty mosquitoes. Or if it is fresh air they are after, heaven knows there is plenty of that stuff on tap in the morning when the day is young and the dew is on the grass.

SOME worthy sage of a forgotten era, after months of careful observation no doubt, remarked that even a worm will turn if driven to desperation. And the powers-that-be should take note of that fact. For the long-suffering farmer's blood pressure is steadily rising. It took a sudden jump upwards when he looked over the latest income tax forms. After reading the questions myself, I thought that someone must have blundered when no official had been appointed to peek down our throats to see what we had for breakfast on the 31st of December, 1947.

Then on top of that they have to play the part of an amateur Elisha and try to hold back the sun for a while. That stunt might be just the last straw. Countries have gone haywire for lesser reasons.

He who sows the wind reaps the whirlwind. So take heed you men who guide our destinies, and repent before it is too late. There is still time to take water and admit that to monkey with the clock is a deadly sin. The writer thinks so—first thing in the morning, anyway.

Practically All Countries Sign

SINCE the article on page 56 went to press, word has been received that all importing countries except Ecuador (30,000 tons), and Guatemala (10,000 tons), had signed, or made an appointment to sign the International Wheat Agreement as of March 30. This would represent 93.9 per cent of the importing countries and 99.7 per cent of the total guaranteed quantities listed for the 33 countries in the agreement.

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What Are Our Prospects?

An estimate of the future of prairie agriculture by a farmer who is also an economist

By S. H. LANE

THIS article is an attempt to discuss the most important factors which will affect future prairie farm income. Plans for the immediate future are not so difficult, because prairie farmers now have a fairly general and at the same time fairly accurate idea of probable spring moisture conditions, the grasshopper situation, the minimum price of wheat and the labor supply for the coming year. We cannot forecast May and June rainfalls or other possible hazards, but these the successful prairie farmer has been accustomed to meeting as they come. His success, in fact, has usually been the result of following a general course and adapting his plans to particular emergencies as they arise.

Beyond the immediate future, and especially in these days of political turmoil, the outlook is less certain. Under such circumstances, farm plans must allow as far as possible for emergencies, and concentrate first on a large, and secondly on a dependable farm income, perhaps allowing even for a sacrifice of the highest possible income, for one which is more secure.

The simple facts of history are reflected in the problems of prairie agriculture today. We must still work with the natural resources we have, and with the efficiency we possess, or can develop. We are also dependent on foreign markets for marketing our surpluses. Finally, our attempt at sheer economic efficiency must not lower the level of rural social welfare, and thus kill the goose that laid the golden egg.

By this time we have learned that we can produce wheat unexcelled as to quality anywhere in the world; that a substantial part of the dry region described by Captain Palliser in 1857 is suitable for ranching; and that the possibilities of growing special crops in selected areas are developing. We have learned something about dust storms and the havoc which soil erosion may cause, as well as the fact that a decrease of one inch in the normal summer rainfall will probably decrease the annual wheat yield by 2.5 bushels per acre.

Nevertheless, we are now in a much better position than we were at any time in the past. We have learned from experience to use farm practices adapted to our soil and climate, and thus to secure more dependable incomes. Though soil and climate still tend to make farm income speculative to a considerable extent, we do have the productive resources, if we can make the proper use of them.

One of our problems is to make more efficient use of land that is not suited to the economical production of wheat. The use of this land for grain production lowers the standard of living for those occupying it and is a drain on the occupiers of better land, who must, by higher taxes, periodically provide relief for the less fortunate people. The P.F.A.A. was designed to provide a partial crop insurance program, but it would certainly be undesirable if this program had the effect of bonusing the use of sub-marginal land.

DURING the period 1939-1944, the three prairie provinces contributed approximately 17 per cent of the net value of Canadian production. During the same period 11.5 per cent of the net value of Canadian production was produced by prairie farmers with approximately 10 per cent of the gainfully occupied labor force in Canada. This remarkable achievement occurred during a period of above-average yields and

profitable prices, when we were able to sell accumulated surpluses as well as current production. Between 1941 and 1946, owners of farm properties also reduced mortgage indebtedness by 52 per cent, while at the same time purchasing over \$200 million worth of new equipment. During the same period also the average size of farms increased by seven per cent. By these distinctly improved conditions, agriculture regained its strength after the staggering blow dealt it by the combined drought and economic depression of the '30's. The improvement, nevertheless, should not be considered as more than a recovery. Our success in preventing the recurrence of conditions experienced during the '30's will depend on our ability to maintain a high level of production and find markets at remunerative prices.

IN any attempt to visualize the future of western agriculture, it is necessary to give grain a prior consideration. From 1908 to 1947, the average prairie wheat yield was 15.9 bushels, ranging from a low of 6.4 bushels in 1937 to a high of 26 bushels per acre in 1915. From 1939 to 1947, the average wheat yield was 17.4 bushels, the low yield being 13.1 bushels in 1945 and the high level being 25.6 bushels in 1942. The long-time average yield of oats has been 30.6 bushels, and that of barley 23.3 bushels per acre, which compare with 31 and 24.2 bushels respectively for the 1939-1947 period. For both wheat and coarse grains, it should be remembered that the average yield has been higher and the variability less, in recent years, than over the longer period.

Past experience indicates the probability of some below-average crops in the near future. These may come as a result of dry years, insect infestation, or by a decrease in soil fertility following continuous grain cropping. The signs, however, are not all unfavorable. Varieties of grain that are more resistant to drought, frost, disease and insect pests have been developed, tested and distributed. Trash cover methods of farming have been widely adopted to make more effective use of limited rainfall, and at the same time arrest the loss of fertility from soil drifting. Commercial fertilizers are also coming into use, although complete agreement is lacking as to their economic justification on all prairie soils. Mechanization enables the prairie farmer to carry out his farming operations with more timeliness. The recent development of weed sprays holds interesting possibilities. Other possibilities, though lacking widespread application in the near future, lie in the development of special crops such as oil seeds, peas, canning crops and various irrigation projects.

Livestock also is important. In 1943, as much as 46 per cent of the income of prairie farmers was derived from the sale of livestock and livestock products. In recent years, this percentage has tended to decrease, but livestock production would assume an increasing proportion, if farm income were to decrease.

Livestock, particularly beef cattle, can be incorporated into the prairie farm enterprise without interfering unduly with grain production. In diversifying farm income it adds security to the farm enterprise. The water and soil conservation work of the P.F.R.A. has led to greater assurance of pasture and water supplies. The main problem now is to build up sufficient feed reserves to maintain a basic herd in the event of a crop failure.

IT would appear, then, that we have a 50-50 chance of maintaining our present level of production. This will only be possible, however, if the widest practicable use is made of the best farming practices. More volume of production, however, does not solve all our problems. Cost per unit of production must be below the price received for the product. Total costs per farm have obviously increased as the result of the increased size of farm and the increased investment in machinery which has occurred in recent years. It is the costs per unit of production which must be watched, since these vitally affect farm profits.

The increase in farm size also makes the farmer more vulnerable to fluctuating prices and income. He loses more if prices drop or if crops are poor, because his fixed investment is higher. He no longer grows his own power; and if his land and machinery are not paid for, he must find heavy debt charges out of a deflated income. This emphasizes the need for an effective stabilization program.

Such a program must encourage a sufficient volume of production, and at the same time assure the farmer of a return approximating the average returns received during the period of good and bad years. Some measure of stability has been achieved through the Agricultural Prices Support Act, the P.F.R.A., and the P.F.A.A., the Canadian Wheat Board, the British contracts and other programs. These, however, lack sufficient flexibility to meet rapidly changing economic conditions. An effective stabilization plan will, nevertheless, remove the evils of price uncertainty so that farmers can plan production to more adequately meet future market demands. Faltering action by the government as to the date and extent of price changes, only adds to the confusion and creates dissatisfaction all the way from the producer to the consumer.

THE third main phase of the farm problem is finding markets. This is no problem today when food is in such short supply throughout the world that farmers will probably be able to sell all the wheat they can produce for the next five years at least. But need alone is not sufficient to provide a satisfactory market. Buyers must have purchasing power sufficient to give the producer a satisfactory level of living.

Farmers, of course, cannot find markets at will. These depend on economic conditions inside and outside of Canada. Employment and production at a high level both at home and abroad are necessary if farmers are to receive satisfactory prices. In this respect, the future of western agriculture is not very clear, because food contracts mean very little unless our foreign customers

are able to convert their economies to a peacetime productive basis. The prospects for agriculture in western Canada are therefore closely tied to the working out of some form of the Marshall Plan. Unless such a plan is able to operate successfully, and unless we can eventually secure fairly free international trading through the Geneva Trade Pacts, the western farmer's welfare is bound to deteriorate.

Prairie farmers have generally supported stabilization on the international level through such organizations as F.A.O. and the International Federation of Agricultural Producers. They have also looked hopefully toward a world wheat agreement which, after 16 years of effort, has been arrived at only recently, by representatives of 36 countries. The world, however, is still suffering from the combined shock of the depression and the war which followed, which makes international agreement exceedingly difficult.

Lacking an assured international program of agricultural stability, the Federal Government has established its own stabilization machinery. Notwithstanding much evidence of discontent among western farmers with some of these policies, notably the wheat contract with Great Britain, it is apparent that farmers do desire some policy which will minimize wide fluctuations in price. Criticism of the present policy seems to centre around the belief that returns to wheat producers under the contract will be less than those which they would receive if the wheat had been sold at world prices. Farmers have no objection to aiding Britain in her recovery period, but feel that this aid should be a national, not a western farmer responsibility; and notwithstanding the removal of some fluctuation in price through guaranteed floor prices, initial and participation payments, they feel that the net loss of revenue which they expect, is too big a price to pay for the advantages of the added stability.

Until present contract agreements expire, we cannot know the final result, and even then we cannot know what might have developed had these contracts not been in effect. Since price guarantees for the future will come under consideration again before long, we should give very careful consideration to what price guarantee program we desire, if any.

WHAT principles, then, should the farm price program of the future embody? The vulnerability of prairie farmers to both climatic and economic conditions makes it easy to justify a price stabilization policy, if it can be obtained at reasonable cost. If the government establishes a price guarantee program not supported by contract agreements, it must assume a greater



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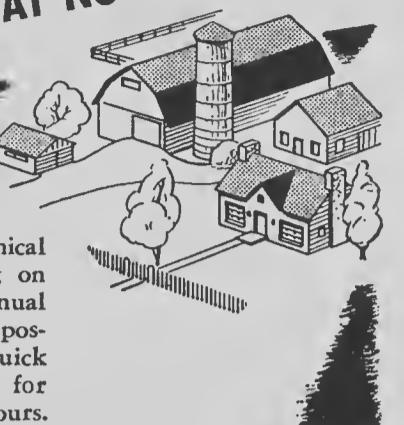
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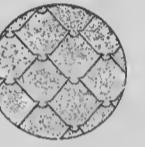


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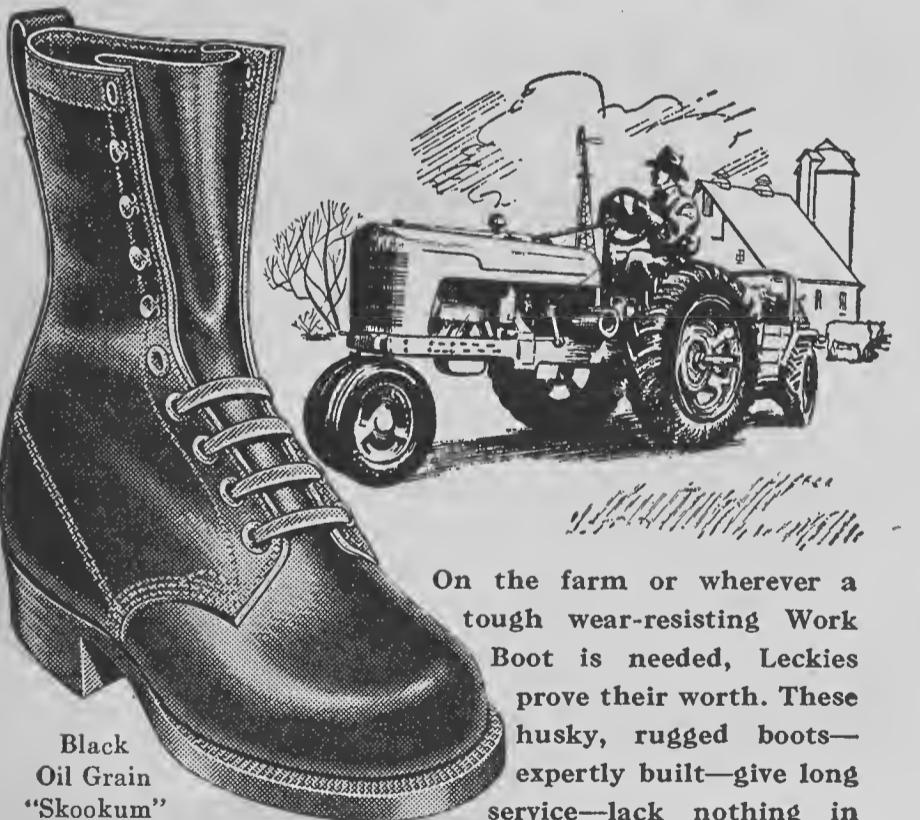
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risk. On the other hand, there are very definite advantages to offset this shortcoming.

One wonders why it is not possible for farmers to sell their grain crops to government marketing agencies, which would follow a policy of selling at world prices. Where a discriminating agreement may antagonize our customers or our competitors, such a policy would not do so. Besides, none of our contract customers need then feel any obligation, moral or otherwise, when negotiating prices for the latter years of the contract period. The marketing agency could pay an initial payment and a participation payment on behalf of the government, just as the present Wheat Board now does. The difference would be that all of the products would be sold at the world price and participation payments adjusted to counteract fluctuations in price over a total period of high and low prices rather than over a four-year period. In other words, when world prices were high, the farmer would receive relatively lower prices; and when world prices were low, he would receive prices that would be relatively higher.

Numerous obstacles to such a plan present themselves. It might be argued that no world price would exist unless other countries sold their wheat on a free and uncontrolled market. The answer to this criticism is that the success of such a plan would depend on the willingness of the government marketing agency to sell the wheat at a price which would move it into consumption. No attempt should be made to accumulate stocks of grain with the object of obtaining a higher price. Another objection might be that the necessary legislation is not available to put such a plan into effect. However, if the plan would serve a useful purpose, the lack of legislation is hardly sufficient justification for discarding it. The object of minimizing price fluctuations over a cycle of high and low prices could not be achieved completely, but the plan has merit as long as it represents the closest approach to this objective.

The future possibilities of the American market for coarse grains and livestock will continue to be uncertain as long as the present differences in governmental attitudes of the two countries towards price control remain. The United States oscillates from an import to an export basis for the commodities in which we are most interested. This fact alone would seem to indicate that the U.S. market cannot be considered an important or a dependable one from a long-run point of view.

Since the West has no reliable market close at hand, the necessity for developing transportation facilities which will bring the West closer to its distant markets becomes imperative. Further development of the Bay route, or the St. Lawrence waterway project would serve this end. Unfortunately, the Bay route can only be used during a limited period, and benefit a limited area, while the St. Lawrence waterway project is still faced with considerable opposition in the United States Congress.

HAVING attempted to outline briefly some of the more important developments likely to take place in the production and marketing of prairie farm products in the future, we must now ask ourselves some questions regarding the people who are going to operate prairie farms. In recent years there has been a heavy movement of population away from western farms. Farm labor became scarce, but at the same time farm production reached its highest levels. Increases in mechanization and size of farms meant that fewer people were needed to produce the same amount. Many young people who left the farm did not return, and if they had, it would have been necessary to divide the farm income received during

recent years between a much larger number of people than was actually the case. Farm populations always increase more rapidly than urban populations, so that a continual movement of rural people away from the farm is necessary if comparable levels of income between city and farm workers are to be achieved. The rural depopulation of the last eight years, therefore, need not be a cause for alarm.

Fewer rural people, however, raises problems related to roads, schools, churches and local community organizations, and also to the provision of sufficient incentive for young people who are generally interested in farming, to stay on the farm. These problems are, in effect, the price we have to pay for increased farming efficiency; and unless some serious attempt is made to solve them, we may find that the only people who will remain interested in farm life are those who are unaware of the social amenities offered by urban life. This would certainly mean that our increased efficiency has been bought too dearly.

Co-operative farming has been adopted in some cases as a means of economizing in the cost of rural services to a widely scattered farm population. Notwithstanding this advantage, the co-operative principle has the disadvantage of being antagonistic to individual independence, which is one of the main attractions of farming.

The more general use of custom work, or the co-operative use of machinery, offers limited possibilities. Large power machinery has forced larger farms; and it would appear that the use of such machinery by a larger number of smaller farms would not only make it possible to use it more efficiently, but would also permit a larger population in rural farming areas.

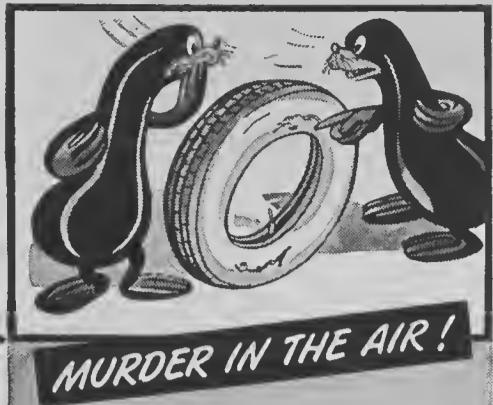
One of the greatest assets of agriculture at any time is the stock of potential leaders. It would be most unfortunate if that asset were allowed to depreciate simply because effective incentives for farm youth were lacking. It is not necessary or desirable to guarantee all members of the farm family a definite wage. What is desirable is that young farm people be assured that in the years they spend on the farm, they will receive an income which bears a direct and definite relationship to the share which they contribute to the farm prosperity.

Father-and-son agreements are difficult to draw up. Nevertheless, such agreements are desirable, since they provide more incentive to all members of the family and give the sons valuable experience in the operation of the farm, while the father is still active. Too many young farm people have left the farm because their work did not seem to bring them an income having any real connection with their contribution.

The possibility of the prairies again undergoing an ordeal similar to that of the '30's seems remote. Then, a severe and extensive economic depression was superimposed upon the devastations of drought. We learned from those experiences, but we can learn still more. We must never forget, however, that a semi-arid climate and unstable economic conditions are characteristic of prairie agriculture; and that a higher level of farm prosperity cannot be achieved unless prosperous economic conditions exist throughout the whole Canadian economy and the world at large.

* * *

(S. H. Lane is a graduate in agriculture of the University of Saskatchewan, who farms on a fairly large scale in southeastern Saskatchewan. Recently he has been spending his winters teaching agricultural economics at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, where this article was written at the request of the editors).



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Farm Accidents

Prairie farms have 50 per cent more accidents in proportion to population than the rest of Canada

THERE are more farm accidents in the month of May on Canadian farms than in any other month of the year, and prairie farms witness a substantially higher proportion of accidents than farms in any other part of Canada.

A sample survey of 11,000 Canadian farms made in June, 1947, by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, produced an estimate of 37,200 farm accidents for the year 1946-1947. These accidents were classified by geographical areas, by age, sex and type of accident. The results indicate that in experiencing a total of 20,800 accidents, prairie farmers accounted for 55.9 per cent of all farm accidents, with only 32.9 per cent of the total Canadian farm population. This high percentage is no doubt due to the great development of farm mechanization in the prairie provinces. Quebec is the safest province in which to work on a farm.

Farm women have four chances of avoiding an accident to every one for a man, because farm women had only 7,200 accidents for the year of the survey, as compared with 30,000 for men. Women have more accidents resulting from burns than men, but only about one chance in 12 of having an accident from crushing.

Of 37,200 accidents of all kinds by both men and women, 15,400 resulted from falls. Farm folks have about as many chances of being accidentally crushed as they have of being cut or pierced with some instrument. The latter caused 5,700 accidents, while 5,400 resulted from crushing.

If you want to avoid an accident on the farm, stay in the house, since only 3,900 occurred there. It is almost twice as dangerous to go out in the barn or other buildings, because 6,300 farm accidents were reported in barns and outbuildings. It is safer to leave the farm and go to town than to go to the barn, because only 5,500 accidents occurred off the farm. Strangely enough, the most dangerous place is in the middle of a field, because 21,500 farm accidents in 1946-1947 occurred in fields and other outdoor parts of the farm.

Unfortunately, almost one out of three of all farm accidents is due to a fracture, and nearly one in five is a sprain or strain.

For those who are most anxious to avoid farm accidents, the safest procedure is to do all of the farm work in January and arrange to stay in the house the rest of the year. December has 10 per cent more accidents than January, and in order of increasing danger, the months are: January, December, June, April and August, March and September, July, February, October and May.

The same surveys recorded damage from farm fires for the year ending June, 1947. There were approximately 8,000 farm fires in Canada, and of these, 3,200 occurred in the prairie provinces, and 400 in British Columbia. In proportion to number of farms, there were more fires in Ontario, where there were 2,400, as compared with 3,200 for the prairie provinces and 1,600 in Quebec.

The most important single cause of farm fires is from heating or cooking equipment, which was responsible for 1,900; poor chimneys and flues caused 800 fires; sparks on roofs that would burn 600; lightning 700; inflammable liquid 900; electric wiring 300, and other miscellaneous and unknown causes 2,800. All of these Canadian farm fires caused a loss of \$10,254,000, and only 36.8 per cent of it could be recovered by insurance.

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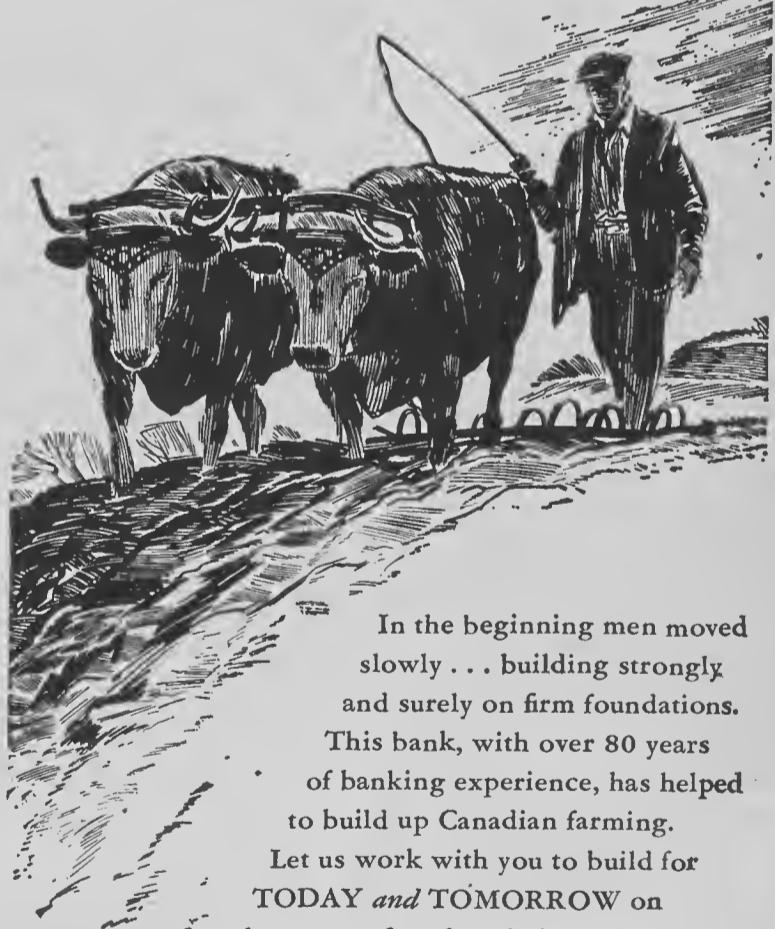
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SILVERTIP'S CHASE

Continued from page 9

With terrible speed the clamor from the rear rolled up on them. He saw his mate swing her head in impatient fear from side to side, hunting some escape.

The wind brought to them the smell of a barnyard, of man, and the thin, distant clamor of more dogs. The she-wolf would have swerved to the side, but Frosty drove her straight ahead.

Of ordinary dogs he had no heed whatever. But those keen yelpings of the greyhounds from the rear he understood. Even the antelope could hardly run faster than those lean beasts. He had seen them overtake and kill the wing-footed rabbits. And once they came in sight of their target, nothing could keep them from overtaking a pair of wolves, particularly wolves running in the open.

Worst of all, there was the harsh calling of greater throats, giving forth notes like those of the two monsters which had come before Bill Gary to the traps.

FROSTY felt cornered, though still at distance. The steel hand of man was surely closing about his throat. And it seemed to Frosty that the collar was shrinking, shutting off his breath.

He paid no heed, therefore, to the smell of the barnyard and the scent of man and the yelping of the other dogs. He even welcomed the thing and drove his unwilling mate before him straight down into a hollow where stood the long, squat shadow of a ranch house and the larger mass of a barn behind it. He only knew that he would be safe if he took to his heels and left his mate behind him to be torn by the teeth of the pack.

He could not do that. The power of instinct checked and held him powerfully to her. He was not one to change his mind when danger threatened.

So they came down into the hollow, and as they reached the damper, colder air below, they heard the forefront of the dog pack break over the hill behind them—the pointers first, and then the greyhounds on the leash, and then the fighting heavy artillery of the crew. Worst of all, there were beating hoofs of horses, and the calling of men to one another. And always the cursed daylight brightened around the rim of the wide horizon.

He saw the entangled mazes of corral fencing behind him. He turned, and with a determined charge, drove the two pointers who were closest far away from him. They yielded ground readily, as always. While they lingered in the distance, he whirled about and leaped the nearest fence. His mate had already crawled under the lowest wire, and was disappearing around the corner of a great stack of hay that stood in the middle of the enclosure.

A little yellow dog came scooting toward him, yapping at the top of its lungs splitting the night with its sharp *ki-ying*. He swerved toward it. The house dog, terrified by the size and the imminence of that danger, dropped flat on the ground.

One stroke of his teeth and Frosty would leave it with a smashed back, dead. But he disdained an enemy of such proportions, and hurried on as fast as he could leg it, until, turning the corner of the haystack, he was amazed to find that there was no sight of his mate before him!

He dropped his bewildered head toward the ground and suddenly picked up her trail. It turned sharply to the side into one of the hollows that were worked under the side of the haystack, where cattle had fed and where scratch-

ing chickens had widened the entrances. Into one of those her trail led, and, crushing far back into the yielding hay, he suddenly found himself at her side. He heard her gasping.

Terror made him cold. His body lay still. His heart was still, also. Some instinct, from the first, had told him that association with females is dangerous. Now he found himself trapped, and the peril of the hunt swarming in around him!

The day freshened every moment. As the light grew stronger, the intricate entanglement of hay drew yellow bars across his vision.

She was still. He could feel that her stifled breathing was choking her. He could feel her shuddering as she strove to control her gasping breath.

He needed that silence to study the approach of danger. The whole hunt had swept down and around the corral. It poured on. He was sure, for a few moments, that it was definitely gone, for there was no noise close at hand except the shrill screeching of the little yellow dog, which had taken up its post directly in front of the hiding place of the two wolves.

Then the hunt came back, as though the yelling of the little dog had guided it. The doors of the house began to slam, and men carrying the deadly odor of gunpowder and steel issued. Their voices were loud. The riders of the hunt had returned. The scent of their sweating horses was strong in the nostrils of Frosty. The great dogs were roving here and there. Chickens, foraging in the

Now came the great voices which Frosty had feared most of all, and waited for—the heavy artillery of the Thurston pack, which was sweeping toward the haystack.

Frosty came out of the hay with a bound. A big pointer, right in front of him, received a slash that opened his shoulder like a knife stroke. That dog would run no more on this day.

THE dazzling eyes of Frosty saw men on horseback outside the corral fence. He saw, closer in, greyhounds running, and big grizzled monsters, covered with mouse-colored, curling tufts of hair exactly like the two dogs of Bill Gary, but even larger, if anything.

The men yelled. The dogs gave tongue all in one voice. And the wretched little yellow dog that had caused all this crisis of danger fled screaming out of the path.

That talkative busybody, the squirrel, betrays many a hiding animal in the heart of the woods. Frosty thought of that as he swerved around the corner of the haystack as fast as he could possibly run.

Behind him his fleet-footed mate was racing. The fluff of his tail must be beside her head. And Frosty turned the next corner, and the next of the stack, and bolted straight across the corral.

He had simply doubled the stack, and was running, now, right on toward the spot where he had seen the horsemen, because he had judged that they would get into motion in another direction.



"Nursie, which one do you want me to get for you?"

early day, fled with scattering outcries from these marauders. And always the cursed dogs were giving tongue.

Had they lost the scent in the entangled mazes of fresh tracks that crossed and recrossed the odorous ground of the corral? Well, the yelping of the little yellow dog would soon lead them aright.

Yes, at this very moment there was a howl from a pointer, and then from another, right at the entrance to the lurking place of the wolves.

Frosty nudged his mate with the shrug of a shoulder. This was the time. By the tightening of his muscles she could be able to judge that a sudden face attack was what he had in mind, and he could feel her muscles tightening also. There was good stuff in her. She was not one to shrink from her duty in a great pinch like this.

They had scattered to this side and to that, and the whole stream of dogs was in movement out of sight, around the big stack of hay, as Frosty and his mate streaked back across the corral and leaped the fence.

A little wilderness of labyrinthine barbed wire crossed and crisscrossed before them, bright with newness and the morning light here, and red with rust there. And Frosty held straight on through the midst of that wire. The strands which were farthest apart he dived between. The lower fences he jumped. He knew of old that ridden horses will not follow across barbed wire, even where it is stretched low along the posts.

Off to the side he saw a little boy and two women at the back of the house, throwing up their hands, yelling in shrill voices. They were not to be con-

sidered, however, because no smell of gunpowder and steel came from them.

In fact, Frosty gained so much by his doubling maneuver that he was actually well beyond the entanglements of the corral fencing before the head of the dog pack got wind and sight of him and lurched in pursuit.

The horsemen were coming too, scattering off to the side to avoid the fences. Rifles began to clang as Frosty shifted into a scattering of brush that worked up a steep hillside. And through that brush the two wolves dodged to the head of the hill.

Frosty glanced at his mate, and saw that she was not scathed. Her eyes were red with labor and with terror. They were blank. She was incapable of using, now, the excellent brain which the god of wolves had put into her head. All that she could do was to follow blindly where her great mate led her.

Her heavy meal of meat still weighted her down, but she was in her second wind. And before them stretched the ragged sea of the mountain uplands which Frosty knew so by heart, every corner, every hole, every den, every patch of brush.

He realized, by the first faint glimmering of hope, how utterly he had been lost in despair.

HE knew the best way to head now. Just off to the right there was a canyon which a small stream of water had drilled and grooved and polished through the rising mountains. If they could get into that ravine they could shift from one side of the narrow water to the other, and so delay the dogs which ran so well by scent. And presently a horde of little branching canyons opened to the right and to the left. Up one of them they could flee and perhaps gain safety.

It only needed that they should first make the long pull of the upgrade that would bring them to the edge of the canyon wall.

He knew the best way, and he showed it to his mate now. There is nothing so killing as an upslope, but wolves handle such labor better than dogs, almost always. He felt that for the moment only man was to be feared, because the light of the day was bright now, and man could use that light to kill from afar with the barking voice of a rusty rifle.

So Frosty legged it up the slope, cut suddenly to the right, and found himself running on an old Indian trail up the side of the valley. Sometimes that trail was ten feet wide. Sometimes it narrowed to three. Would the riders dare to follow on their horses? Or would they give up the hunt and leave it to the dogs to finish the day's work?

The trail rose in a straight line, hugging the great rocky wall of the ravine. From the outer edge of the ancient road the cliff dropped again hundreds of feet to where the little river widened into pools or narrowed again into arrow-straight white rushings of water. It was still a good mile, a long mile, to the place where the trail dipped downward and slipped onto the level floor of the narrow valley. It was still a mile from the broken bad lands where Frosty and his mate could begin to have hope indeed.

And before that mile was over, Frosty knew that he would have to turn and fight.

The pointers had fallen well behind now. They had not the legs to keep up with the arrowy flight of the greyhounds, and next to the greyhounds came the great fighting dogs of the breed of Bill Gary. The riders were also there, in the distance, driving their horses up the narrow, slippery, dangerous ledge with a remorseless courage. But they could not keep up with the dogs on such a grade as this. Therefore they lost ground at every turn. Only twice did they have a clear view of the fugitives and fill the air with

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whining bits of lead that made Frosty shift and dodge from side to side.

But the she-wolf was almost spent. Her effort to maintain a gallop sent the loose hide and ruff of her mane swaying forward above her shoulders. Her head was down. Her long, red tongue almost brushed the rocks. She ran with a telltale swerving as Frosty suddenly checked, with a snarl that told her to run on.

She went on, but only at a dragging trot. And he, looking after her, realized that it was all the speed she could possibly get out of her exhausted body.

Then he turned to face the danger.

HE was in a narrow spot in the trail where it was scarcely a stride abroad. Two dogs could come at him at once over this footing. Here they came—the two leading greyhounds, running as evenly as though on a double leash—magnificent thoroughbreds, the pick of the dog pack of Joe Thurston. The length of the race had put them where they belonged—in front. Now, very gamely, they bared their teeth and rushed in on the wolf. If they could get a toothhold for even a moment, the big fighters of the Gary breed would close and end Frosty’s business.

And Frosty knew it. That was why he had no thought at all of his fangs at this moment. He simply stood braced until the last instant, and then he dived for the shoulder of the inside dog. His head was the entering point of the wedge that he drove between that greyhound and the rock way. His shoulder was the heel of the wedge that hurled the tall dog to the side with a resistless impetus that knocked both it and its running mate over the edge of the rock.

Their death yells ran needle-thin through the air and dropped at once into vagueness and distance.

Frosty had no time to waste on the triumph. One of the Gary breed was at him now. Frosty went right at his head with a blinding slash of his teeth, and then with a shoulder stroke that hurled him backward, head over heels.

He slipped over the edge of the rock, clung by the forelegs, slowly instinctively crawled back to the ledge.

His second in the pack had gone the way of all flesh by that time. Frosty, fighting for life, had cut that big fellow down by the forelegs and rammed him in turn over the edge of the rock.

And now, at last, that best of fighting backs held back. They had seen their leaders, one by one, hurled to destruction. It must have seemed to them that a four-footed devil was standing there, bristling, green fire shooting from his eyes.

So they gave back, howling, snarling. Only the gallant, foolish greyhounds strove to get at the throat of the enemy, but found their way blocked by the massed formation of the Gary dogs, which were now at the front.

So, for a moment, the great wolf stood his ground, and knew that he was giving his mate safe time to cross the top of the ledge and get down into the ravine beneath. And as that knowledge made him glance aside, he saw a thing that curdled his wolfish blood—for, straight across the ravine, lying at ease on the ground, a man was leveling his rifle at Frosty’s heart.

FROSTY knew that danger as well as though he already felt the bullet in his flesh. There were two men yonder across the ravine, and two horses, one of which shone like a statue of polished gold. The man who lay with the rifle at his shoulder was the vital danger for the moment; his companion was erect, his own rifle held at the ready, and now he leaned and jerked the gun of the marksman aside.

That rifle spoke at the same instant, but the bullet finished far away, and Frosty heard the faint thud of it against the rock high up the cliff. He saw the marksman spring to his feet. He heard the thin, distant voices of

dispute blowing toward him.

And even the heart of the wolf knew that it was very strange indeed that men should interfere with one another when it came to the making of a kill.

For his own part, there was a hollow thrill of joy in his heart, and he ran on with lightened body and strengthened legs. Behind him the disheartened pack of dogs had begun to snarl and quarrel with one another. The voices of their owners yelled far away; and so Frosty ran over the peak of the trail and sloped down the farther side into the bottom of the ravine, where his mate was already cantering.

Above him, to the right side of the ravine, he saw the two hunters had mounted. A big man with a bare head rode the golden stallion, and on the bare head of the man there were two faintly gleaming spots of silver, just over the temples, and exactly like the sheen of incipient horns that begin to break out from the head of a deer.

The rough edge of the cliff shut out the view of those two riders for a moment, and Frosty was glad to forget them. The newness of his escape from imminent danger was still a bewilderment in his mind. It was as though his throat had been crushed in the grip of a mighty enemy who, unharmed, had suddenly relented.

But there is no relenting in the wilderness. To slay is to do right, and to destroy the enemy is the first duty.

So when Frosty came to the staggering form of his mate, he looked upon her almost as a visionary thing—a thing that a young cub may daydream or see in the sweeping, tossing spray of a waterfall in summer. She was unreal. The reality remained back there on the trail where the dog pack had confronted him, and where the rifle had pointed at his heart.

He ran up the main ravine, twice springing across the little run of water, leaping from stone to stone that jutted above the surface; and his mate, obediently, though on failing legs, followed him. Then he came to the place where the many smaller ravines split away from the throat of the main valley; and at the same time, far away behind him, he heard the full current of the hunting pack enter the valley.

It would take those dogs, no matter how keen, some time to pick up the trail which he had entangled in the lower valley for them. And while they were puzzling over that, he and his mate would be scampering to safety in the labyrinth of canyons that cut up the back country.

He turned, therefore, down the first small ravine to his right.

She ran with slaver falling from her long, red tongue. Her eyes seemed swollen; they were closed to mere slits, and showed like unlighted glass. Her coat stood up raggedly, like the coat of a wolf that has been through a frightful winter of famine. Mud and dust covered her. Her heart was breaking, as Frosty very well knew, but where a weaker spirit would have given up and crawled into the first hole, she kept to her work right valiantly. She was the sort of steel of which the right wolfhood should be made, Frosty knew.

He knew, too that his example and his presence were what finally sustained her during this last effort, and therefore he trotted cheerfully in the front, looking back now and again over his shoulder toward her.

He was looking back in this manner as they rounded a sharp corner of the ravine, and he was surprised to see her stop short.

Was she about to die of weariness, as he had seen a hunted rabbit die?

He glanced ahead, and then he understood.

For there stood the golden stallion with the big rider on his back, and the man was swinging a rope and calling, to his smaller, darker companion:

“We’ll take him alive! Don’t shoot, Alec!”

ALEXANDER Gary, his rifle leveled from his shoulder, exclaimed in answer: "If you get that wolf on a rope, you'll wish that you'd daubed the rope on the devil, sooner! Lemme put some lead in him. That's the only way to handle him! Let me shoot, Silver!"

"Keep that rifle to yourself!" thundered Silver. "Don't shoot!"

His voice rang and roared through the narrows of the canyon as poor Frosty and his mate halted again, he crowding back to her.

His heart was failing him at last. Before him were two men, reeking with the fatal taint of gunpowder and steel; two men, nearer to him than ever man had been before. And the sun was full and strong upon the scene, and what could keep death from Frosty now?

Then he heard, well in the distance, the cry of the dog pack in the outer valley. In a few moments it would drift in and follow this canyon. There were dogs, and behind the dogs there were armed hunters. From that danger there would be no escape, whereas once before these men had pointed a gun at him, and yet he had run to safety.

So, making his choice, Frosty threw

That was danger, but it was a smaller danger than the rifle. This was the same man, also, who had pulled the rifle away from its line of fire upon the first occasion.

That was why Frosty, compelled to make a choice between dangers, ran much closer to the man with the swinging rope, and as he ran, paid no heed to Jim Silver, but turned all his green-eyed fury, all of his hatred, toward Alec Gary.

And as he came in between the danger of the pair it seemed to Frosty that the hateful steel collar that had been fastened upon him by the will of man now drank up all of the heat of the blazing sun and scalded his neck.

He was through the gap, though the rifle still pointed at him, though the whistle of the swinging rope had been in his very ear.

He was through, and his mate was safely at his heels!

Perhaps they had let him go as a wild cat lets a captured squirrel creep a little way from her terrible claws as she pretends to look the other way, all the while lashing her silken flanks with her tail in an ecstasy of savage exultation,



A few long poles wrapped with woven wire protects a straw pile satisfactorily from wastage by livestock.

his mate one brief, snarling admonition, and started right up the canyon toward the two riders.

The she-wolf lurched after him. She was so far gone that she would have followed the command of Frosty over a precipice blindly. It was all death to her. It had been death almost from the moment that the two pointers began to yell on the trail. It had been death on the run through the hills, death in the hiding of the haystack, death in running through the fencing of the corrals, death in the agony of long labor up the Indian trail, and now it was doubly death and doubly bitter since, for a moment, there had been a little hope of life.

But she ran heavily after her lord and master.

He was like a lord and master now more than ever before. He had erected his mane. He had thrown his head high. His eyes were balls of green fire as he threatened the two men to this side and that.

Before him he saw the glimmering of the bright steel barrel of Alec Gary's rifle. The weapon was still at the shoulder of Alec, and he groaned with eagerness as he got, through the sights, a dead bead on the great wolf.

And on the other side of the narrow way, inescapably close, sat the man with the silver gleam in the hair above his temples. He was swinging a rope, opening the noose in it. The thing sang softly in the air. It was thin as a shadow, and it whipped a frail ghost of a shadow over the ground as the rider whirled it.

and hate, and rage, and triumph.

Perhaps these men were playing with him and would strike him dead at the moment he thought he had come to safety.

ALEX GARY was groaning: "If you won't let me shoot, then daub the rope on him. There's the steel collar on his neck, and the location of the mine's inside the collar. Jim Silver, are you goin' to let a million dollars of meanness and wolf run right by you?"

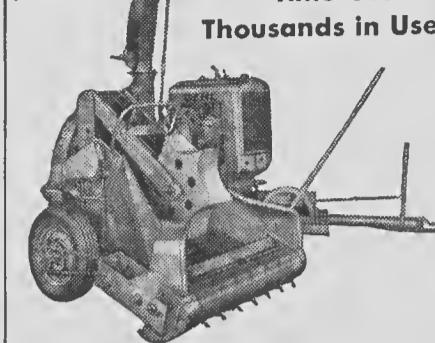
"I can't put the rope on him!" exclaimed Silver in answer. "He's too full of nerve. He had plenty of run in him. He could have crawled up the side of one of these rock walls, but he wouldn't leave his mate. He's a hero, Alec. I can't touch him—today, I can't!"

All that Frosty knew was that a man's voice had given him security. Twice, on a single day, his life had been saved by that same man. Frosty could not attribute motives, but he could understand facts. You may be sure that he was very glad that he had run as close as possible to Silver and as far as possible from Gary!

And behind him, Silver was saying: "I'm sorry, Alec. But I couldn't do it. Not if that collar were worth a million mines. If I'd roped Frosty, we would have had to kill him before we could have quieted him down. There was no room to run him and choke him down—not in this narrow ravine. And—man, man, he came right under the noose of my rope. He ran so close to me that it looked as though he was asking me for mercy—trusting me!"

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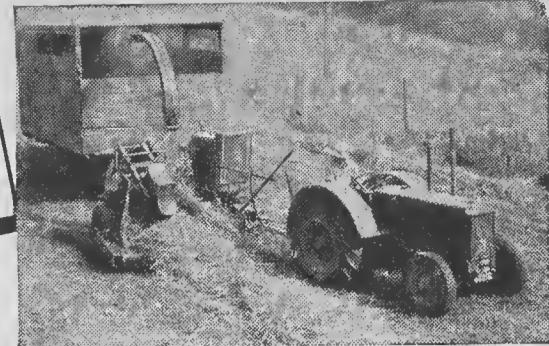


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MR. FARMER, IT'S UP TO YOU NOW!!

This is Your Opportunity To Help Yourself!!

Legislation is before Parliament at Ottawa to extend government monopoly of wheat marketing to include oats and barley. If enacted **YOU WILL BE COMPELLED TO SELL YOUR OATS AND BARLEY AS WELL AS YOUR WHEAT TO THE CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD.**

However, to make this monopoly effective, it may be necessary that each provincial legislature pass a law permitting this government monopoly.

So this is your opportunity to protest against the extension of the monopoly. You were not given an opportunity to protest against the wheat monopoly. But *You Can AND SHOULD* make protest now. Those who favour the monopoly are working tooth and nail to get control over your grain. *You must fight against them with all your might.*

IF YOU DON'T PROTEST NOW, and your neighbours, of like mind, don't protest now, you may have only yourself to blame. Provincial Legislatures may fall in line with Parliament and all those dependent upon grain growing for a living will be absolutely in the power of political pressure groups and so-called "farm leaders."

The Winnipeg Grain Exchange has endeavored to show wheat growers what monopoly has cost them. Controlling prices for wheat was a war measure. Nobody grumbled about that. But the monopoly was extended to peace times without even asking the consent of wheat growers, who, as a result, have lost hundreds of millions of dollars. They shouldered the burden, instead of it being paid by **ALL THE TAXPAYERS.**

If the Government monopoly is extended to oats and barley another link will be forged in the grain grower's Chain of Bondage.

YOU SHOULD LOOK AHEAD

It is the future, not the past, that is now most important to farmers. Think of the dangers that threaten you. No man, and no group of men, is **WISE enough or GOOD enough TO BE TRUSTED WITH UNRESTRICTED POWER.** "All power tends to corrupt . . . absolute power corrupts absolutely."

Your wheat is now marketed at **POLITICAL PRICES** and for **POLITICAL PURPOSES.** Oats and barley are subject to even more political pressure; and since **VOTING POWER RESTS WITH CONSUMERS**, there will be a constant political battle between producers and consumers . . . and **PRODUCERS WILL BE THE LOSERS.**

The Grain Exchange has done, and is doing all that it can to uphold the farmer's *Freedom of Choice* in selling his grain. Let those farmers who wish to sell through the Wheat Board do so; but demand the Right to sell your grain when, where and to whom you choose at prevailing market prices.

If you are Opposed to Government Monopoly and Compulsion

ACT QUICKLY BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE

Write at once, or, better still, **WIRE** your Provincial Representative in Regina, Edmonton or Winnipeg. State your strong objection to extending Government monopoly to oats and barley. Tell him you want freedom to choose between selling to the Wheat Board or on the free and open market, whichever is most profitable to you. Get neighbours who agree with your views to do it. The more protests received, the better. This may be your last opportunity to help yourself and keep politics out of your grain, but you must **ACT QUICKLY—OTHERWISE YOUR PROTEST WILL BE TOO LATE.**

WRITE FOR THIS FREE PAMPHLET

We have published a pamphlet "Just a Minute with the Grain Exchange." It shows what **CONTROL OF WHEAT** has cost Western farmers, and will indicate what can happen to control of oats and barley. Fill out and mail the coupon below and a copy will be sent **BY RETURN, POSTPAID.**

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Alec Gary, grey and drawn of face, exhausted by violent emotions, stared at his companion.

"Jim," he said, "everybody knows that you're the best fellow in the world. Everybody understands that. But what's in your head today, I can't tell. I thought you and I were hunting a wolf!"

"We are," said Jim Silver contritely. "I've been a fool. We're hunting a cattle-killing devil of a lobo. No matter how big and handsome and brave he is, I'll never be a fool like this again, Alec. Only—something came over me twice today. I forgot he was just a wolf. I thought of him just as a brave fellow in danger, in the last ditch."

THURSTON and his pack of dogs, with **Truman**, the rancher, to back him up, and with the patient and intelligent assistance of **Barry Christian** and **Duff Gregor**, kept after **Frosty** steadily.

In seven days they actually ran the great wolf seven times. They ran **Frosty** high above timber line over snow and ice; they ran him in the tangles of the canyon that split the lower heights of the Blue Waters. But for a week they had no sight of his mate. **Frosty** came out alone and faced the hunt and ran it breathless.

There were certain things to notice. The first day had cost a lot of dog flesh from his pack, but it had afforded a chance to do some shooting at **Frosty**.

The second day there were three chances to open on **Frosty** with rifles, and it seemed probable that he had been wounded. The third day they had only a few glimpses of him in the distance. The fourth day they ran the pack by scent only, the greyhounds led behind on leashes to save their valuable and arrowy speed for the right moment. And on that day another dog out of the pack was killed—a big and wise pointer. The fifth day again they hunted **Frosty** without sight of his valuable head. They lost another pointer and one of the Gary dogs that day. They lost three of them on the sixth day, and four on the seventh. The very heart had been cut out of **Joe Thurston's** pack. He had to send back for more dogs.

But he locked his jaw and said that he would keep on along those lines if it took him all summer.

Barry laid his long-fingered hand on the shoulder of **Thurston** and said in his gentlest voice:

"It won't take you all summer. It won't take you another week. There may be something left of you, but your dogs will all be gone. Look!"

He sat down cross-legged by the camp fire and took out a notebook and began to sketch in it.

"He got the first dogs on the ledge. Call that luck. He was hanging back for his mate, that day, and he just happened to find a place to make a last stand at the very moment that he needed it.

"The second day the dogs were still working him pretty close, but already he had learned to leave the she-wolf behind him. We had a look at him a few times through the sights of our rifles. The third day we had only a glimpse. And since, the dogs have had his scent now and then, and we've had his prints to look at now and then. Not so often, either, because you notice that he prefers to run on hard rock now? The sun burns the scent off rock in a short time, and he knows it. Rock won't take the print of a wolf's paw, and he knows that, too. Every day we work him, we're teaching him how to beat us. The fourth day, he begins to teach us that he knows his lesson. Here, look at this."

He showed the sketch which his rapid pencil had made—a little thicket of brush on a vast, rock mountainside.

"ONE of the pointers runs ahead of the rest, and **Frosty** waits for him and makes the kill, and then goes

ahead. See how the kill was made—one long rip right across the throat. Knocked the dog flat with a shoulder stroke first, I suppose. Then **Frosty** doesn't stay there to exult over the kill. He runs right on and we see no more of him. Neither does the pack.

"The next day, he gets two dogs. He waits for them on the far side of a ford. When the first dog gets across, **Frosty** pops out of these rocks and slaughters him. While he's killing that one, another of your fighting strength gets across, and **Frosty** handles him, too. See how it's done. Big dogs—scientific fighters, all of 'em. But **Frosty** knows how to lay them out. Would you fight a duel with a Frenchman who has been educated all his life to use a sword? That's what it means when any dog gets up against **Frosty**. Brains, and strength, and teeth that will bite through steel, it seems.

"The next day, you lose three dogs. At different places along the trail. In a dark lane through a patch of big woods—in the narrows of a ravine—in a huge tangle of brush like a jungle. You see, **Frosty** is beginning to know this pack as well as he knows these mountains. He knows how fast the pack can run and how long it will take him to get to the next cover. He's enjoying the game now. The pack is running after him, but **Frosty** is doing the hunting.

"Then comes today. He leads the pack through the tunnel of a long cave. In the dark he turns around, and two of the best dogs never come out. He takes the pack right back to the ford where he had fought them before, and there he slaughters two more. Notice that every day he grows bolder and bolder, turns to fight more and more often. And yet never lets us get within sight of him."

He finished his sketching and folded his notebook.

Joe Thurston, his coffee cup on his knee, stared at the fire with a small, grim smile, and said nothing.

Truman got up and stretched himself.

"We're beaten," he muttered, under his breath.

Thurston's voice snipped into that sentence sharply.

"You may be beaten, I'm not. Not while the dogs last," he said.

Big Duff Gregor was usually a silent partner in these conversations, only turning his head now and again to wait for wisdom from **Barry Christian**. But now he ventured:

"It looks like a cooked job. What's the good of wasting our lives? Besides, there may be trouble—"

He let his voice die away, because the sharp glance of **Christian** had checked him.

Truman, shrugging his shoulders, remarked that he would take a walk through the woods before he turned in, and added that he would start back to his ranch in the morning.

As soon as the rancher was gone, **Thurston** declared: "You fellows have scared **Truman** off the trail. That's all right. I don't care if everybody's scared off the trail. I stick to it. What's the trouble that **Gregor** is afraid of?"

"**Gregor** believes in luck; he thinks that we've got bad luck permanently on our trail now," put in **Christian**, before **Gregor** could speak.

Thurston laughed, and the sound was like the snarling of one of his dogs.

"I know another kind of trouble that you fellows don't want any part of," he said. "Big Jim Silver and a fellow named Gary are still drifting around through the mountains, trying to cut into this game. And you don't want him to sight you. Is that it?"

Christian was rubbing his hands slowly together, nodding, but what he said was:

"Doesn't it occur to you, **Thurston**, that I may be able to make something

out of this wolf hunt that will settle the score between me and Jim Silver? I know that Silver's in this part of the world, but he probably doesn't know that I'm around. Thurston, Truman, and a couple of strangers. That's all he's prepared for. But we'll never bag Jim Silver the way we're going about things now."

Thurston turned his head and waited, his expression poisonously cold.

"Go on, chief," urged Gregor, softening his voice as though he feared to break the current of the thoughts of Christian.

BUT the great outlaw continued to stare into the distance where the mountains sprang up out of the night and pierced the last color in the sky.

At last he said: "There's a way of doing the thing, I think. We can get Frosty. We can get Jim Silver, too. But not by tackling either of them directly."

Duff Gregor looked with a quick, small smile toward Thurston, as though he wanted to call Thurston's attention and bid him be ready for an idea that would be worth hearing.

Then Barry Christian said: "Silver trails the wolf, and the wolf trails its mate. We can't catch Frosty by fair means, so we'll catch him by foul. We'll get the she-wolf alive and keep her, then Frosty will have to come to us. Silver will have to come to us, too. We'll have to try to be ready."

He turned his face from the mountains and smiled at the fire, and his eyes glowed. Thurston had jumped up from his place. He glared at Christian for a moment. Then he began to walk up and down with short, quick steps.

"I wish you'd thought of it before," he said. "I'd be in a thousand dollars worth of dogs, by this time—and maybe we'd have both the wolves drying by the fire."

"It's no easy job to get the she-wolf. She never appears any more," suggested Duff Gregor.

"She'll sure appear tomorrow, though," said Thurston through his teeth.

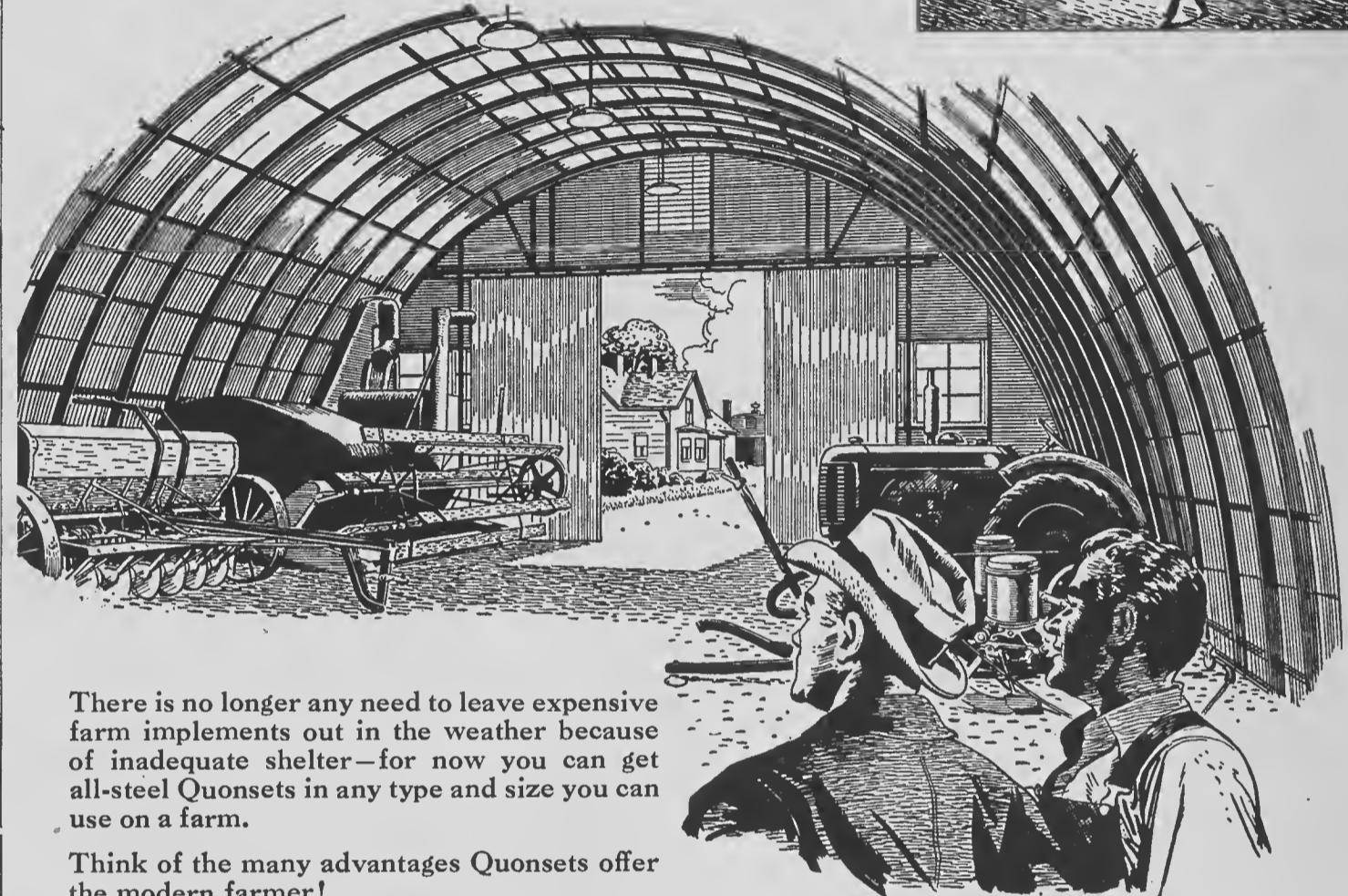
As a matter of fact, she *did* appear on the morrow. Thurston found an old set of her tracks and worked the dogs down the line to a dugout which was rank with the smell of the wolves. Out of that dugout the pack got the scent of the she-wolf, and though it was crossed and recrossed by the sign of Frosty, it seemed as though the dogs were glad to forget all about that destroyer. The pack hung closely to the traces of Frosty's mate and, late in the afternoon, suddenly she ran out of cover a half mile ahead of the pointers.

Big Frosty was there beside her, but only for a moment; then he disappeared into brush, heading off to the right, while his mate kept straight ahead.

Joe Thurston cursed with hearty amazement, for Frosty's intention of pulling the pack after him while the she-wolf ran free was perfectly apparent.

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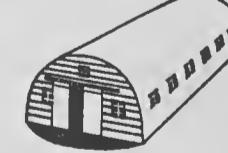
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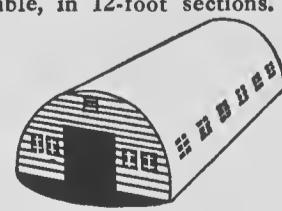
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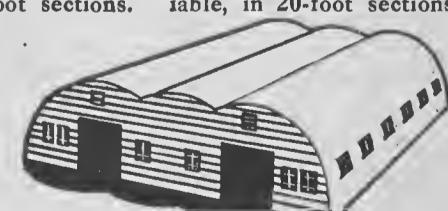
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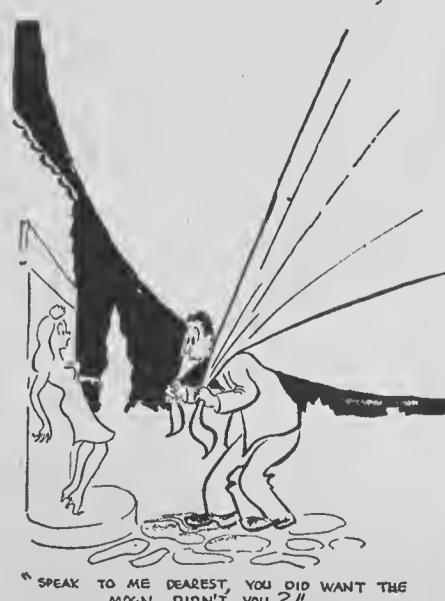


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But on this day, Frosty's luck was out. He had read human minds very well, indeed, but he could not guess the device which Barry Christian had brought into the game.

Right past the sign of Frosty's diverging trail ran the pack, with the greyhound shooting out into the lead toward the point where the other wolf had disappeared.

There were two burning miles, then the riders brought their foaming horses in view of a big rock under which Frosty's mate had taken her stand, at bay. She had not the foot to distance the greyhounds, of course, and she had not the shiftiness to dodge them, as Frosty would have done.

She had laid one of them writhing on the ground; the others, in a close semi-circle, edged in gradually on the raving, green-eyed beauty.

Barry Christian rode right through the dogs and landed the noose of his lariat over her neck just as she whirled to make a break for liberty.

Thurston kept the dogs off. Duff Gregor landed another rope on the big she-wolf. In 30 seconds she was choked to a stagger, muzzled, hobbled, and ready to be dragged wherever her captors wished.

Through the swirl of dust, Thurston looked down at their prize.

"There's the difference between hunting an ordinary wolf and tackling Frosty," he said. "We've got her in one day. We wouldn't get him in one year. Not with an army."

There was a peculiar answer to that speech, for from the opposite side of the valley, unseen among the woods, a wolf gave voice to a great, deep-throated lament. They knew it was Frosty mourning for his mate.

JIM SILVER lay out on the edge of a bluff with a field glass pressed to his eyes. He studied the opposite slope for a time, then he sat up and passed the glass to Alec Gary.

"Take your turn," he said. "I think it's Frosty's mate. She's chained there. I could see the glitter of the chain."

Gary studied the picture in turn. The powerful glasses picked up the farther mountainside and brought it suddenly closer. It expanded the clearing. He saw the white-headed stump where a tree had been newly felled. He saw the glistening of an axe. And in the middle of a patch of sunset that sloped from the west over the heads of the pines, he made out the big wolf that stalked restlessly up and down. A snaky streak of light coiled and recoiled and followed the captive. That was the chain, of course.

"Looks tall," said Gary. "But I couldn't spot it as Frosty's mate."

"I think so," said Jim Silver. "Dark above and pale below. She sat down while I was watching her, and the breast was almost white. Those are the markings of Frosty's mate. Listen!"

There was a sudden clamor of the voices of dogs. The noise fell away on one yelping sound as though a whip had been used.

"And that's the pack!" suggested Alec Gary.

He lowered the field glasses and shaded his eyes with his hand as though in that manner it would be easier to see the truth. All his lean, dark, handsome face showed the strain.

"That's the pack," he went on. "It's the same lot of people who have been hunting Frosty with the dogs."

"The same lot," said Silver. "Who are they?"

Gary glanced at him and waited. He was always waiting on Silver, as upon the knowledge of a superior being. It was not merely that deference that had caused Silver to feel an affection for him. All during the ardors of the hunt, above timber line and below, through all sorts of weather, the patience and the endurance of Gary had been all that a man could ask for. There seemed to be in him none of the brute that had appeared in his uncle, Bill Gary. In Alec Gary the blood stream had run pure and clear. In every way the work had been difficult, and a dozen times, as they toiled and moiled to make out the trail, they had heard the clamor of the dog pack sweep by in the distance, hurrying miles away, and driving out of his den, once more, the great wolf for whom they hunted. But Gary had never complained.

"I don't know who they might be," said Gary. "Except what I've guessed before—that it's Thurston's pack."

"Tell me," said Silver. "Do you know Thurston?"

"I've seen him. That's about all."

"What sort of a reputation?"

"Mean—but straight."

"Really straight? Too straight to throw in with a pair of crooks?"

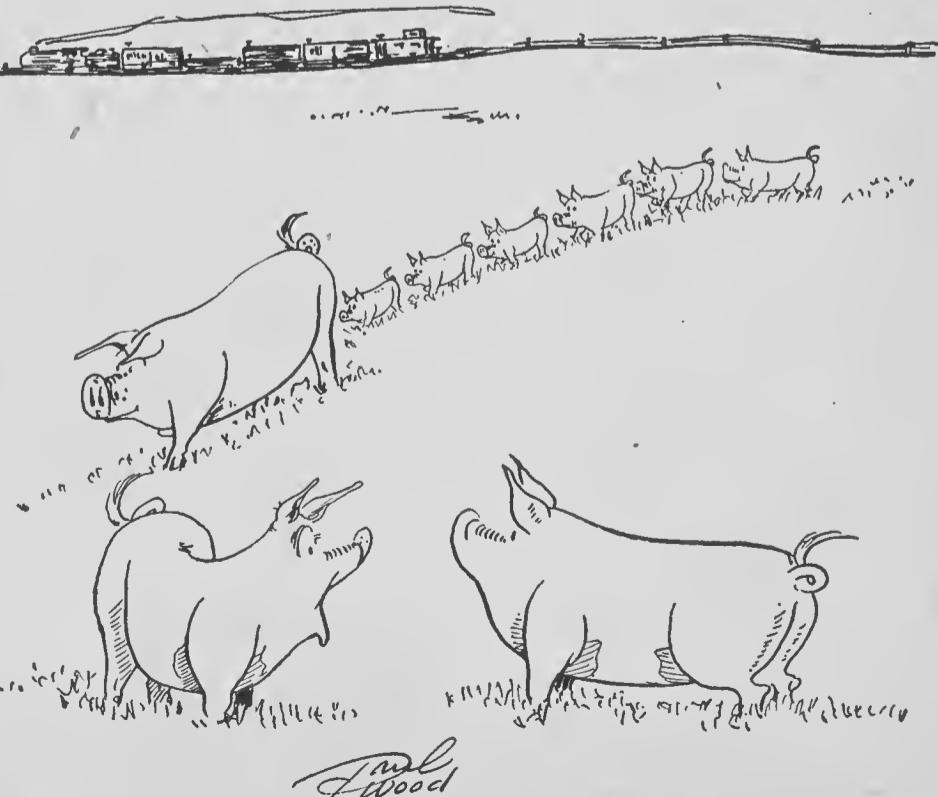
"What sort of crooks?" asked Alec Gary.

"A crook like Barry Christian, for instance?"

Slowly Gary shook his head.

"No," he said. "Thurston comes of decent people. I've seen his daughter. She's the right stuff. No, I don't think that he'd throw in with Christian. I'm sure he wouldn't. No decent man would, because everybody knows what Christian is and how he's deviled you."

"Somewhere," mused Silver, "Barry



"She got scared by a train before they were born . . ."

Christian and Gregor are in the mountains on the trail of Frosty. They are unless I'm entirely wrong. Christian knows what's inside that Red Cross collar. And he isn't the sort of a fellow to give up the job until he's put his hands on the treasure."

"Suppose he knew that you were after Frosty, too. Would he still keep at the job?" asked Gary.

"He'd keep at the job. He's not afraid of me, if that's what you mean," answered Silver.

"No? Then why does he run away from you?"

"Because he's like a beast of prey. Doesn't fight until he's pretty sure of winning. He wants an advantage before he throws his hat into the ring. But if you think that Thurston wouldn't throw in with Christian—why, then it would be safe enough for you to go over there and find out just who owns that dog pack. Because, Alec, whoever it is will probably have Frosty by the leg before many days."

"You mean," answered Gary, "that they'll cover the ground with traps and that Frosty will walk over those traps to get to his mate?"

"That's what I mean. Has Frosty ever failed to stand by her, so far?"

"No," agreed Alec Gary. "He's a regular lion when it comes to standing up for her."

"He'll keep away for a while, perhaps. And when he comes in, first of all, he'll smell the traps and clear off. But finally he'll close his eyes and take a chance. It will be the last chance that he ever takes."

Gary nodded.

"And that," said Silver, "will be the end of the trail. The people who catch the wolf will be sure to examine the collar he's wearing. They'll open the little compartment. They'll find the message about the mine. They'll get the fortune that ought to be yours, Alec, and you'll have all of this work for nothing."

Gary squinted at the distance, a way that all mountain men have when they are in earnest thought.

"Not for nothing," he answered. "I've learned to know you, Jim. That's enough for me."

Silver smiled at him. "Ride down there and take a look at that camp, will you?" he asked. "You can be back here before the twilight's very deep. You haven't pulled the saddle off your horse yet, and Parade has started grazing already."

The stallion, hearing his name, tossed up his head and looked anxiously toward his master, scented the wind, made sure that all was well on all sides, and resumed his grazing.

"I'll have the camp made and the fire started," said Silver. "I'll have the meat cooked before you get back."

"I'll be here again before dark," agreed Gary. "And we ought to know who those people are. Jim, you really think that they'll get Frosty?"

"They will," said Silver. "We're as good as beaten now. They had the brains to tackle the problem on its easier side. I never thought of doing that."

Gary sighed. But without making the least complaint, he swung into the saddle and rode off down the hillside.

SILVER watched him for a short time. The way led steeply down into the valley and then up through a thickness of pines toward the clearing. Already the clearing was lost in thick shadows as the sun dropped lower down in the west.

It was the moment of the day which Silver liked best of all, next to the pure, still colors of the dawn. If he had been alone, he would have stood motionless, watching the day end and the fires of it soak out into the dim vapors of the night, but Gary was not accustomed to living like a wild Indian, and needed at least two good meals a day, with three preferred.

So Silver, with a sigh, turned to the cookery.

He could not help wishing to find, one day, a man like himself, capable of enjoying life even if there were only one meal a day—yes, or once in two days, if necessary—a man with all of his appetites perfectly under control, except that passionate and urgent appetite for the wilderness. He had never found a man of that sort. He was reasonably sure that he never would find one. In the whole course of his life he had found one living creature that he felt was like himself—and that was the great stallion, Parade. He did not own Parade. He had simply formed a partnership with the horse. Of men, there was of course Taxi—but Taxi was not a blood brother. Whatever the affection between them might be, they were total opposites.

These were the rather gloomy thoughts of Jim Silver as he broke up some wood for the camp fire, and cut a number of small twigs to serve as spits for the rabbit meat. Young Alec Gary, with an accurate rifle, had picked off two jack rabbits that afternoon. They had been partially dressed, immediately after the killing, of course. Now Silver finished the cutting up of the meat and arranged it on the spits around the handful of flame.

That, and salt and cold water, would be their fare. And perhaps a few bits of hard-tack. Ample for Silver, but starvation diet for Gary, as Silver well knew.

Parade posted himself to windward of the fire and close in toward it.

At a greater distance he could find far better grazing, free from the brush, but Parade always chose the strategic position rather than the one where he could fill his stomach most easily. Now, as he grazed, whether his head was down or up, he would be continually on guard. And even when he lay down to sleep, his senses would not be totally closed. His nostrils would still be drinking the wind and sifting the messages that were borne on it to his subconscious brain. His keen ears would be listening for the sound of feet or of distant voices. And, at the first token of peril, he would be up and snort and stamp beside his master until Jim Silver wakened.

He made a better sentinel than a dozen trained men, and Silver trusted the horse more in dangerous country. Though, for that matter, all country was dangerous where Jim Silver rode. His friends made much noise, but they were always at a distance. His enemies were apt to be on his trail.

He was thinking of these things, more gloomily than ever, when he was aware that the twilight had ended. The meat he had been turning on the spits was now browned and ready for eating. He wrapped that meat in some clean leaves, stood up, and cast one guilty glance toward the stars. He felt that he had been asleep at his post, indulging in useless reflections.

For well before this, his friend should have returned.

He went to the brow of the hill overlooking the deep valley, and stared in the direction of the clearing. It was invisible now. The trees seemed to march in unbroken ranks up the opposite steep slope. Only on the ridge they bristled against the dim background of the starlight.

There Silver waited, watching, listening.

The fact that there was no firelight from the opposite clearing was suspicious enough, for people were still there. At least, the dogs were there. Even now Silver heard a short, eager yelping that floated faintly to him on the thin mountain air.

Danger was in that air, and he knew that he would have to go straight on to investigate the source of it. He saddled Parade and rode at once into the deeper night of the valley.

TO BE CONTINUED



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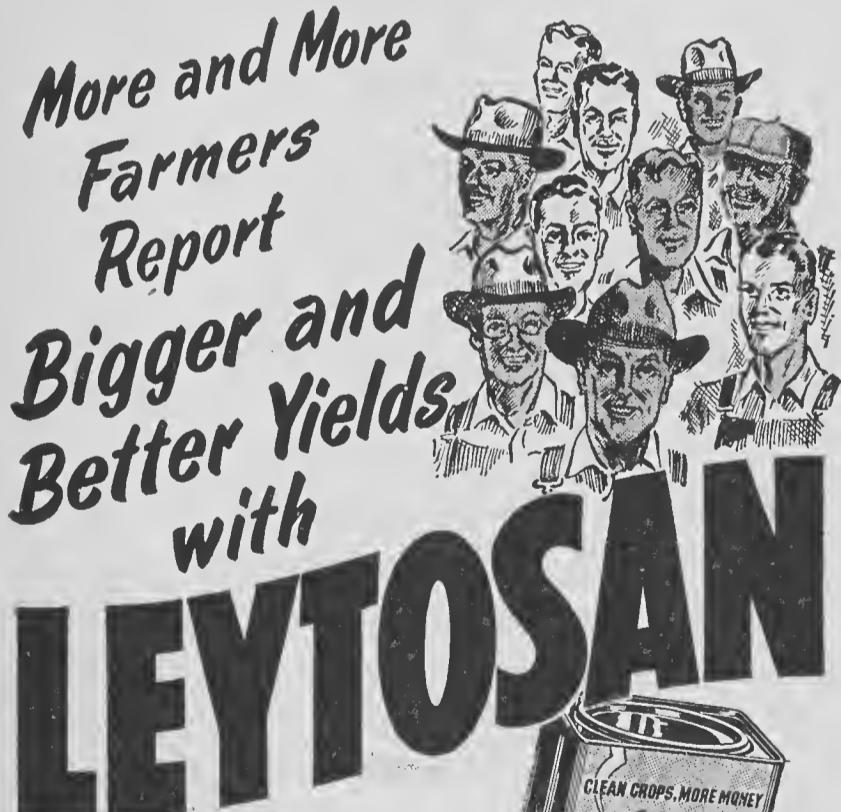


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The Party Line Telephone

Everyone knows listening is wrong but they will do it

By HARRY J. BOYLE

THERE was something missing in the kitchen. My father noticed it the moment he came in the door from doing the evening chores.

"What happened to the telephone?" he demanded.

Mother pretended to be very busy around the stove as she replied, "The lineman was here and I . . . oh . . . I had him move it into the front hall."

"It'll be kind of cold in there in the wintertime won't it?" he said, but I noticed a smile around the corners of his mouth.

"It was a plagued nuisance dingling away here in the kitchen all the time," replied Mother as she put the platter of meat on the table, "Supper's on. Come and eat now. Harry did you wash your hands?"

The latter was purely a routine question because she had seen me at the washstand. It served to drop the whole matter of the telephone.

I was amused by the incident because the evening before, a cattle buyer had called on my Dad. They sat in the kitchen, because it was winter-time, and since we were not expecting company there was no fire in the heater in the front room. The telephone rang . . . three longs and two shorts. There was a family exchange of glances.

It was Thursday evening and time for Sally Benson's boy friend to phone her from town. She was the school-teacher, engaged to the hardware clerk in town, and the roads had been blocked for a month. He telephoned every Thursday and everybody on the party-line listened. It was as good as a continued story in a weekly farm paper. We would sit around quietly, and Mother with her hand over the mouth-piece and the earphone to her ear would listen, turning around every so often to toss back a choice tid-bit of gossip like . . . "Old Tom Kennedy, that used to work at Akins' store died today . . . he says he misses her terribly . . . Hmph! The very idea. He wants her to go and visit him in town over the weekend."

THE Thursday evening that the cattle-drover came we missed our weekly instalment of the party-line romance. After that, if we had company and there was an interesting ring on the telephone, Mother would sit still for a few moments and then get up and start looking around as if there was something she had misplaced. Then she would walk into the front room and tip-toe through the far door into the hallway and then back to the telephone. She always had a sweater handy in the front hallway for such emergencies. We could always tell when she reached the telephone . . . because there was one squeaky board she never seemed able to miss.

After living in the country for a time, you got that you could almost sense the calls to listen in on. Two longs and one

short was no good. Tom Dymont was a bachelor and he used his telephone strictly for business. Four longs was a good one because there were three teenage girls at the Thomson place and they had boy friends. Everybody listened to two longs and two shorts. That was Jack MacVicars and he was insurance agent, justice of the peace, pound keeper and secretary of the school board. You could hear about a fire or a theft or possibly a case of cattle that had strayed or even the name of the new school teacher.

Abbie Jenkins was a notorious listener. Her telephone was placed at a convenient place on the wall so that she could sit down and concentrate on her listening. She also had a great clock and the ticking sound of it provided a background. She would never admit listening to the telephone and would often comment on what a terrible habit it was. Father tricked her once however by suddenly stopping his telephone conversation and saying, "Abbie your clock is wrong." Before she had time to collect her wits she exclaimed, "It is not. I set it this morning by the school bell." Abbie was horrified and the community had a wonderful laugh.

THE strange part about the party line is the fact that everybody listens in . . . but very, very few ever admit that they do. On the other hand if there's a hint of tragedy . . . somebody sick, or a fire, just listen to them chiming in without any thought of preserving their declarations of "no listening."

Possibly, women are more inclined to cover up the fact that they listen. I remember my father picking up the receiver one day, after the Jenkins' ring went in. He wanted to know if it were Ab. Richards phoning to say when he could come and do the threshing. It was Ab, who said, "I'll be along to do your threshing first thing in the morning. If you got a day's work I'll go right along to the Boyles next morning." My father had no compunction about saying, "Thanks Ab." and then he said, "Tilly, will you tell Pete I want him morning after next for threshing and the rest of you . . . Martha, Rachel . . . Mary . . . Grace . . . tell the men I'll be threshing after Tom Jenkins."

He just picked out the ones who didn't trade work with Jenkins but who did with him. It worked too. They were around for the threshing . . . but nobody would think of mentioning how they found out.

Listening isn't such a bad habit. I can remember as a very small boy when my mother took sick. Father called the doctor and within an hour, four of the neighborwomen came along to help. They didn't mention how they knew there was a sickness at our place . . . and father didn't comment on it. He was mighty glad they had come. So was I, after sampling his food.



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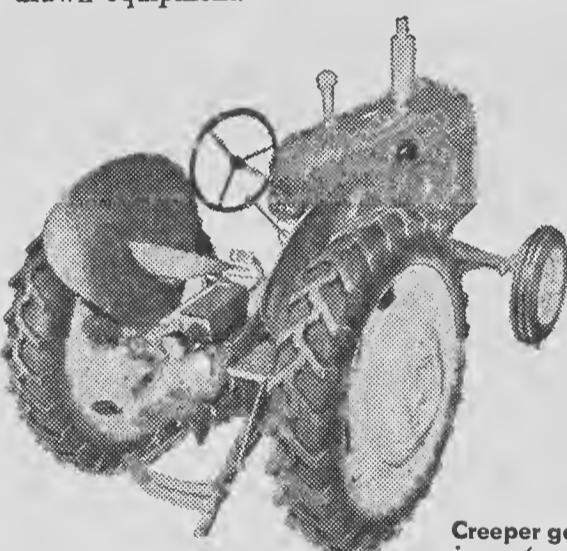


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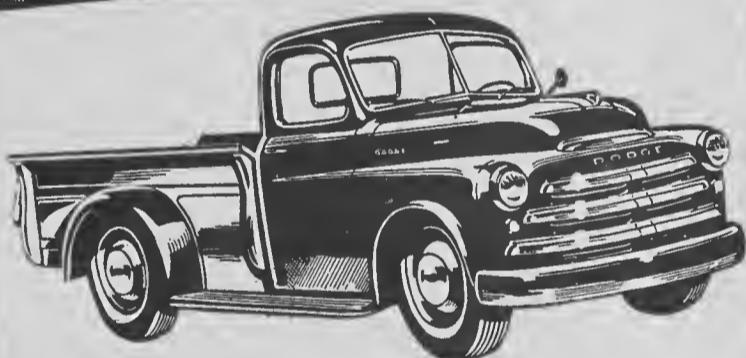
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THE NEW
1948

DODGE

Job-Rated
TRUCKS

The Countrywoman

A letter from the west coast telling some impressions and experiences

By AMY J. ROE

Voice of Spring

*I come, I come! ye have called me long
I come o'er the mountains with light and song!
Ye may trace my steps o'er the wakening earth
By the winds which tell of the violets birth
By the primrose-stars in the shadowy grass
By the green leaves opening as I pass.*

—ARTHUR HELPS.

* * *

*When the hounds of spring are on winter's traces,
For the mother of months in meadow or plain
Fills the shadows and windy places
With the lisp of leaves and the ripple of rain.*

—SWINBURNE.

* * *

"Spring has come when you can place your foot on three daisies at once."—an old saying.

Spring in the West

SPRING has inspired poets to write many beautiful lines. Winter with its positive cold and discomfort tends to make for us, so often, a season of discontent, especially near its close. We long for the warm, sunny days, the season which Shakespeare called "the sweet of the year." We ask ourselves "If winter comes can spring be far behind?" This year we have, with just complaint, echoed Coleridge's words: "Spring comes slowly up this way."

Whether spring, in its proper time, descends upon us on the prairies or comes in "o'er the mountains with light and song," it remains an unsolved mystery. There has of recent years been developing a great trek of people westward from the prairies to meet the advance guard of spring, with its banners flying beyond the Rockies. They meet and pass those who are starting eastward after having spent the winter at the coast. Perhaps some day an adequate story will be written of that annual trek and the spring exodus of prairie people. Its present proportions are as yet too lightly defined by recorded statistics to be properly described although it is quickly sensed as one moves about and talks to other travellers and to old-time residents at the west coast.

FOR this month, this page is in the nature of a letter to readers telling of personal experiences in visiting British Columbia in spring. An extended leave granted because of long service with The Country Guide made it possible for me to spend March and April in British Columbia. In that period of time one can only see and come to know one region and cannot possibly picture conditions in other parts. One soon realizes that this is a province which, vast in size, offers a great variety of landscape, weather, occupations and living conditions.

To leave the prairies, still frost bound and covered with snow in early March and travel over the mountains, still more heavily blanketed in white, and overnight to arrive at a vastly different landscape is one of the joyous experiences of a trip to the coast. There is still a chill in the air and one may not always be quite so comfortable indoors as the houses are not so constantly heated as ours. The lawns are green and the evergreens combine to hide the bareness of the other trees. There is the sudden delight of seeing violets or a yellow, white or blue crocus showing against the black earth. One hears robins chirping in the early morning and evening and knows for sure that spring is here. Residents claim that here too spring is late and that growing things should be much further advanced than they were by mid-March.

Newspaper headlines featured the shipping of 6,000 dozen daffodils by airplane from Victoria to eastern Canadian cities. Easter coming in March, is early this year and there was some disappointment that that combined with late blossoms did not permit full opportunity to supply larger air cargoes of flowers from Vancouver Island for people in other parts of Canada. Import restrictions being what they are at present, seem to afford an almost unlimited market for cut flowers and potted blooms from British Columbia.

Even though the usual harvest of blossom is not ready there are quieter delights. To me the sight of white, pink or mauve-rose of cherry blossom like a tinted foam along the hedgerows or on a single tree standing on a lawn is a sight to be long remembered. Yellow forsythia shrubs, crocus and a field of daffodils in bloom with a not-far-distant plot of blue hyacinth was a joy to behold.

This year with restrictions on money for travel in the United States the movement of Canadians to the west coast has been unusually heavy. It is something to be reckoned with in these days of housing shortage. Every kind of building, summer homes and garages have been converted into dwellings. The sums asked for good houses could easily represent what the sale of a farm on the prairies would realize. Building costs for a house that were formerly estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$1,000 per room now are around \$1,500 per room in a dwelling. Wherever you go in British Columbia, you meet people from the prairies who are either looking for, or have obtained living accommodations here.

The last Dominion census, taken in 1941, showed British Columbia to have a population of some 820,000. Now it is roughly estimated to be 1,100,000 and is expected to be still further greatly increased by the time the 1951 census is taken. An official told me that the British Columbia population is growing three times as fast as that of Quebec, which stands second among the provinces for population growth.

ONE way of arriving at a figure showing the increase is to study family allowance registrations. In November, 1947, records show that 2,000 families moved into British Columbia and only 200 moved out. For the month past, March, 1948, records show that 418 families moved in as compared with 256 who left for other parts of the Dominion. In the spring the movement of families shows a slackening as compared with the previous winter months. According to the regional director of family allowances: "The majority came from the three prairie provinces with Alberta heading the list."



Early spring bloom along garden paths charm the eye.

The tourist business or "tourism," to use the term used locally runs into big money. It is estimated that the 178,600 cars entering Canada through B.C. immigration portals in 1946 brought some 35 million dollars of revenue and that the 205,300 cars entering through British Columbia immigration portals in 1947 brought some 40 millions of dollars revenue, to say nothing of those who entered by the way of other provinces and proceeded on to British Columbia before returning home.

THE attractions are: Travel, change of scenery, game and holiday resorts. The visitor has a large range of choice of interest, whether it be fishing, shopping for English china and linens, visiting the garden and the orchard regions or being just plain lazy at a seaside summer resort. It may seem like a busman's holiday for a magazine writer but I spent some days around the legislative building enquiring concerning matters of interest from various officials of government. The legislature was in session so I entered one of the galleries and heard the Minister of Finance present the government's budget.

An incident occurred that day to remind me that a writer in a public gallery enjoys no special privileges. A guard observing that I was making notes concerning the Minister's speech, tapped me on the shoulder and told me that the taking of notes was not permitted. So I hurriedly put away pen and notebook. I consoled myself with the thought that my notebook remained in my possession and that I could consult the daily newspaper for the information I wanted. I remembered that in some countries of the world under totalitarian governments, the notebook, camera and films of any visiting reporter would be seized and confiscated if the reporter did not carry full and accredited press credentials.

So on one page we have progressed from thoughts of spring to population figures and governments, which of course are of concern to all the people.

The New Look

Presents softly rounded and utterly feminine contours for Spring, 1948

By MARION R. MCKEE

THE fashion picture for spring, 1948, is most interesting and provocative. Much has been written about the New Look, much has been said for and against it, but it seems the New Look is here to stay. Glancing back on the past few years with their easy monotony in style, this spring offers more scope than ever before.

Your silhouette for spring is utterly feminine and stresses soft, rounded lines throughout. The over-all picture features gently curved shoulders, dainty minute waistlines, hiplines which are boldly or subtly rounded and the longer lengths in skirts. The new length is perhaps the most outstanding fashion change this year, and it will largely depend on your figure proportions, height, and how long they can be worn becomingly on you.

The focal point of spring wardrobes is usually the suit, the choice of which affects the selection of hats, shoes, gloves and purse. This year's suits have a wonderfully soft air about them, and feature rounded lines. Man-tailored suits are not displayed this season, and the squared look is replaced by curved contours. Suits are so versatile in fashion that they range right from the very full, flared types to the slim skirted lines.

A most spectacular innovation in suits is the ballerina featuring a voluminous skirt containing yards of material, topped with a snug fitting basque jacket. This free and easy style is particularly attractive to slender teen-agers and the tall and slim. Jackets which go with this extra full skirt may be varied according to taste. Some jackets have a gently curved flaring peplum with a nipped-in waist; others may be bolero style.

THERE is another type of suit featured this spring which combines a softly moulded jacket with a slim fitting skirt. The jacket generally has a nipped-in waistline which curves out gently over the hips. Since the rounded hiplines are stressed, sometimes the jacket is padded to give this full appearance, or the skirt may be slightly padded around the hips. The necklines are generally high, displaying pert little Peter Pan collars which do add to the dainty feminine appearance. There are also collarless suits and ones which have a softly tailored neckline. Very smart indeed is the wide extra large collar which extends to the shoulders and a short way down the back. The skirts for these suits are generally pencil slim, with slits sometimes at the sides of the hem, or in the centre front and back.

There is a wide choice of blouses this spring. A romantic air is given in the soft blouse displaying face-framing lace edged Puritan collars and matching cuffs. Some blouses have a frilly jabot and sleeves greatly adding to the desired feminine air, and combine gracefully with the full skirts of the season. The crosswise bateau neckline has staged a comeback, and is seen both with long and short sleeves in a button-back blouse. Shirtwaist and tailored blouses are as popular as ever and made subtly softer with fewer sharp lines.

A happy blending of yesterday and today results in the gay and enchanting Gibson Girl blouse. Made in many different colors and

materials, it is very charming with its shirtwaist blouse top displaying an eye-catching bow at the throat, and the big balloon sleeves. Sometimes these sleeves are long and full with a tight wrist band, while others are full to below the elbow and end there, with a tight arm band.

DROP-SHOULDER blouses for evening and other dress-up occasions make a dashing appearance. Low necklines and partly-off-the-shoulder lines are seen in the "portrait neck" blouses with the buttons down the back opening. These little blouses have hardly any sleeve and are very plain in both front and back, fitting quite snugly. Definitely new this year is the tunic length overblouse, which combines handsomely with a slim plain skirt.

In the realm of dresses, soft feminine lines reign supreme as in the rest of the fashion world. Skirts which flare and swirl are charming, and hiplines are emphatically rounded by peplums,



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Your Baby and You

by Ruth Parsons



◆ Bathing baby can be fun, especially when the sponge bath period is hurdled, and he's old enough for a small tub. If you're careful, he'll love the water!

So that he won't slip or be frightened, always place a folded towel in the bottom of the tub. Fill the tub with four to six inches of water, nicely warm by the elbow test, or around 95° by your bath thermometer. After you've soaped baby all over, support his head and back with one hand, hold his feet with the other, and lower him gently into the tub. Still supporting his head and back, let him quietly enjoy it for a little while. Then rinse him, lift him out, gently pat him dry.

◆ When baby is three or four months old, your doctor will probably approve the addition of solid foods to his menu. Choose these, with confidence, from the 22 varieties of Heinz Baby Foods. The fresh colour, smooth texture, and tempting flavour of every single variety, is a result of carefully selecting and cooking only the choicest, freshest food. When baby is older, he will also enjoy the 12 delicious varieties of coarser-textured Heinz Junior Foods. Both Heinz Baby Foods and Heinz Junior Foods offer a wide choice of soups, meat products, vegetable and desserts.

Food Facts Every Mother Should Know

◆ There are 22 nourishing varieties of Heinz Baby Foods: Beef and Liver Soup; Tomato Soup; Vegetable Soup; Asparagus; Carrots; Green Beans; Peas; Beets; Spinach; Peas and Carrots; Squash and Carrots; Chicken, Vegetable and Farina; Vegetables with Lamb; Applesauce; Peaches; Prunes; Pears with Farina; Plums with Farina; Apricots with Oatmeal; Orange Custard Dessert; Peach Custard Dessert; Prune Custard Dessert. ◆ There are 12 delicious varieties of Heinz Junior Foods: Chicken Soup; Lamb and Liver; Vegetable Beef Dinner; Tomato and Rice; Creamed Diced Vegetables; Mixed Vegetables; Carrots; Spinach; Green Beans; Prune Pudding; Pineapple Rice Pudding; Apple, Fig and Date Dessert.

◆ **HEINZ**
Baby Foods
HEADQUARTERS for all BABY FOODS

gathers, and contrast bands. Some of the peplums are double and unpressed adding a full puff around the hipline giving that smart, padded look. A full hipline silhouette is especially gay for the youthful figure and is sometimes combined with a rounded drop-shoulder yoke. In dresses as in blouses, the Gibson Girl look stages a comeback. Huge melon sleeves, demure collar, bow beneath the chin, shirtwaist bodice, and flared skirt give a charm reminiscent of the gay nineties.

Shoulder pads for dresses are softly rounded and more natural in appearance. Instead of cutting off squarely at the shoulder they curve down over the shoulder creating a gentle line. Some dresses feature hip pads adding hip fullness for the wide skirts. Decorations of bows, lace, ribbon and other feminine finery are abundantly displayed either in matching or contrasting colors on this season's dresses. Sashes which tie in a huge bow at the side or in a bustle-like effect at the back are making an appearance.

Many of us are justly concerned about what to do with our last year's dresses which seem to be hopelessly short and yet are still far from being worn out. Kind and clever pattern manufacturers have put forth a few suggestions for our benefit and with this help the New Look may be brought to our yesterday's wardrobe. The skirt of a dress, providing it is full enough, may be lengthened from the waist by adding a band of material at the waist. This false front may then be covered up by a peplum of some material which will harmonize with the dress. Satin, taffeta, bengaline or some contrasting fabric is suggested for a dashing air. If the dress skirt is too narrow to lower from the waist, it may be lengthened with a ruffle of contrasting material or color added to the hem. Prints may be used on plain materials, satin or faille with wool, and moire or satin with crepe. Pleated flounces are especially smart when added to the skirt bottom.

The coat picture this spring is unusually interesting and presents many new and striking changes. Some have collars which are broad and exaggerated, others small Peter Pan collars. Swagger collars which stand up in the back are news and collarless coats are still popular. Sleeves vary greatly and may be dolman type cut in one with the yoke, loose swagger styles, or full at the top and fitted into tight cuffs around the wrists.

SPECTACULAR and dashing is the voluminous flare-back coat with the loose sleeves and small stand-up swagger collar. These coats are worn to compliment the full silhouette of the costume worn beneath. The shortie with a full swinging back is especially well liked this season because of the way it complements almost any costume worn beneath. Straight cut shorties are seen, though these are not so predominant.

The other extreme in coat silhouettes this season is reached in the very feminine Princess ballerina. This flattering coat has a fitted top, casual collar, subtly rounded hipline, and a full flared skirt. The seam lines flow with the figure contours and sweep down the full length of the coat from the shoulder to the hemline.

There are many interesting innovations in accessories which delight the feminine heart. In the realm of lingerie we find swirling petticoats in plaid, plain, or many-colored taffetas which rustle delightfully under billowing outer skirts. It is also considered quite proper to let a bit of your pretty petticoat peak from beneath the dress hem in an enchanting way. Another addition new to lingerie is the waist whittler. This dates back to Grandma's time, and is a small corset which encircles the waist and pinches it in to smaller proportions. Handbags have a New Look too,

(Turn to page 99)



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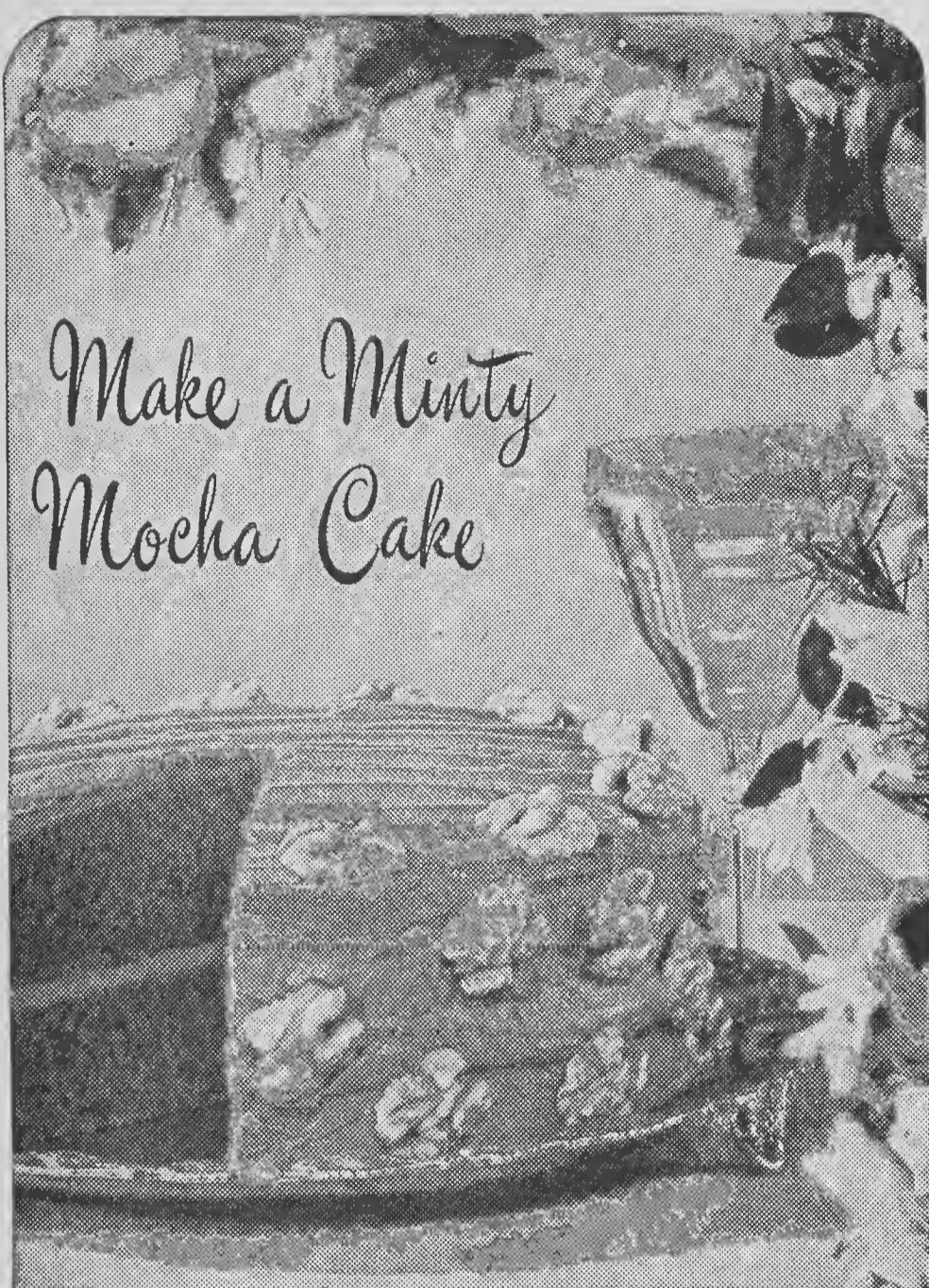
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Cream together shortening and sugar. Add eggs, one at a time, beating after each addition. Melt chocolate over hot water; add melted chocolate. Sift together flour, baking powder and salt. Add alternately with milk to creamed mixture. Add vanilla and peppermint extracts. Pour into two greased 9-inch layer pans. Bake in moderate oven at 350°F., 30 minutes. Cool 5 minutes. Remove layers from pans; cool on wire rack. Spread frosting between layers and on top

MINTY MOCHA CAKE

½ cup shortening	3 teaspoons Magic Baking Powder
1½ cups sugar	1½ cups milk
4 eggs	½ teaspoon vanilla extract
4 squares (4 oz.) unsweetened chocolate	½ teaspoon peppermint extract
1 teaspoon salt	Mocha Frosting
2½ cups sifted all-purpose flour	Walnut halves

and sides of cake. Decorate with walnut halves.

Mocha Frosting—Cream ½ cup butter; sift together 2½ cups confectioner's sugar and 2 tablespoons cocoa; gradually add, creaming constantly. Add about 3 tablespoons freshly made coffee to make mixture right consistency for spreading. Add a few grains salt. Mix well. If desired, a few drops of peppermint may be added to provide a Mint flavor to the frosting.

Oven Dinners

A simple and economical way to prepare delicious meals

By RUTH MEREDITH



Attractive casseroles may be brought from the oven to the table to be served.

THE oven may be a grand time saver if it is used properly. Meals cooked entirely in the oven are simple to prepare, require very little attention during their cooking, and save on dishwashing which is a blessing to the homemaker. If the dishes in which the food is cooked are attractive they may be whisked from the oven to the table and served piping hot from there.

Casserole main dishes are a wonderful saver on the budget. Odds and ends of left-over meats, gravy, fish, vegetables, bread crumbs or numerous other foods, may be skilfully made into a delicious casserole dinner. The spices, flavorings and sauces used may be varied according to individual likes and dislikes. Tomato juice, white sauce, cheese sauce, gravy, cream and other soups are interchangeable as the liquid portion of the casserole, and each add a distinctive flavor. For the sake of variety vary the ingredients and try new and different ideas of your own.

Beef Birds in Casserole (Illustration)

1½ lbs. round steak, cut thin	½ c. flour
½ c. grated onion	½ c. oil or drippings
2 c. bread crumbs	½ c. water
1 tsp. salt	6 medium potatoes, peeled
½ tsp. pepper	6 medium carrots, peeled
½ tsp. sage	2 medium onions, peeled and sliced
½ lb. fat salt pork, ground	2 medium onions, peeled and sliced

Wipe steak and trim off fat and gristle; cut into six squares. Make stuffing by combining onion, bread crumbs, salt, pepper, sage and ground salt pork. Divide stuffing into six equal portions and place in centre of the steak squares. Lap the corners over and fasten securely with toothpicks, or tie with string. Roll each beef bird in flour and place in a frying pan in which the oil has been heated. Brown to a golden color. Place the birds in a two-quart casserole; add remaining flour to fat in the pan, slowly stir the half cup of water into the pan and cook five minutes. Arrange potatoes, carrots and onions around the beef birds. Pour the gravy over the vegetables and meat. Cover the casserole and bake about one and one-half hours in a moderately slow oven, 325 degrees Fahr.

Easy Spaghetti Dinner

8 link sausages	2½ c. tomatoes, canned
1 c. diced celery	2½ tsp. salt
1 c. sliced onion	1 tsp. pepper
1 c. spaghetti	1 c. grated American cheese
1 c. diced carrots	

Brown sausages. Add celery and onion. Brown. Add uncooked spaghetti,

carrots, tomatoes, and seasonings; cover; simmer 35 minutes. Add cheese; cook five minutes. Serves six.

Casserole of Chops

4 shoulder lamb chops	½ c. diced celery
1½ c. cubed potatoes	3 T. chopped onion
1 c. sliced carrots	Salt and pepper
1 c. canned peas	¼ c. hot water
	2 T. minced parsley

Trim fat from chops; dip in flour; brown in hot fat. In a large casserole, place potatoes, carrots, peas, celery, and chopped onion. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, and add hot water. Top with browned chops; sprinkle with parsley, salt and pepper. Cover and bake in moderate oven (350 degrees Fahr.) one hour. Serves four.

Scalloped Eggs and Onions

12 small onions	6 hard cooked eggs
8 strips bacon	½ c. buttered bread
2 c. medium white sauce	crumbs

Peel and slice onions; cook bacon until crisp and break into small pieces. Cover bottom of a well greased casserole with white sauce; place a layer of raw onions in it. Sprinkle with half of the bacon, cover with half of the sliced eggs. Repeat, making the last two layers onions and white sauce. Sprinkle with buttered crumbs. Bake in a moderate oven 350 degrees Fahr.) for about one and one-half hours, or until onions are tender. Makes five to six servings.

Casserole of Ham and Green Beans

1½ c. cubed cooked ham	½ c. grated cheese
2 c. drained, cooked green beans	½ tsp. nutmeg
1 tsp. minced onion	Salt and pepper to taste
1 hard cooked egg, sliced	½ c. fine dry bread or cracker crumbs
2 c. medium white sauce	2 T. butter

Combine above ingredients, except crumbs and butter, and place in a greased casserole. Sprinkle with crumbs, blended with butter. Bake in a moderate oven (350 degrees Fahr.) 30 minutes.

Meat Ball Oven Dinner

1 lb. ground beef	½ c. flour
2 T. chopped onion	2 T. fat
½ c. corn meal	2 c. tomato juice
1½ tsp. salt	3 potatoes, quartered
1½ tsp. dry mustard	6 carrots, halved
1 tsp. chili powder	12 to 18 small onions
½ c. milk	Salt
1 slightly beaten egg	

Combine meat, onion, corn meal, seasonings, milk, and egg. Mix thoroughly and form 12 balls. Sprinkle with flour, brown in hot fat. Place in casserole. To fat in skillet add remaining flour; blend and add tomato juice. Cook until thick; pour over meat balls. Arrange vegetables around meat balls. Add salt. Cover. Bake in moderate oven (350 degrees Fahr.) one hour. Serves six.

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Use More Rice *

Interesting recipes using an
old favorite

RICE is now back in the stores in plentiful supply after a long absence, and once again rice recipes will be in demand. It is a very versatile cereal product and is used in many dishes from the first course to the dessert, lending its own delicate flavor to that of more distinctly flavored foods.

Rice must be cooked properly in order to be appetizing. Boiled rice should have each kernel separate and distinct, and never in a solid, paste-like mass. The best way to boil rice is to first wash it thoroughly, then drop it into salted, boiling water and boil rapidly till the kernels are soft when pressed between the fingers. Place the rice in a colander and pour boiling water over the rice to remove the loose starch and to separate the grains. Drain thoroughly, and place in the oven with the door open for a few minutes to allow the cereal to dry out. If prepared this way the grains should be separate and distinct.

Mexican Rice

1/4 c. cooked rice	1 c. tomato soup
2 T. fat	1/2 c. grated cheese
1/2 tsp. salt	

Heat frying pan very hot, add fat, then rice, and cook till slightly browned, stirring with fork. Pour into casserole and cover with soup and cheese. Run fork through so rice is coated with tomato and cheese. Cover with crumbs. Heat in oven

Nut and Rice Loaf

2 c. nuts, chopped	1/2 c. fine cut celery
2 c. cooked rice	1 c. dry bread crumbs
2 T. melted butter or other fat	1 egg, beaten
3 T. flour	1 1/2 tsp. salt
	1/2 tsp. pepper
1 c. milk	

Combine the ingredients. Pack the mixture tightly in a well-greased loaf pan lined with greased paper, and bake it in a moderately hot oven (375 to 400 degrees Fahr.) for about one hour. Serve as a meat-dish substitute with a sauce.

Rice Bavarian

1 1/2 pints milk	1 oz. (2 T.) granu- lated gelatin
Lemon peel	1/2 c. cold water
1/2 c. rice	1 c. heavy cream
1/2 tsp. salt	Strawberry preserves
1/2 c. sugar	
1 t. flavoring	

Put the milk and a few thin cuts of lemon peel into a double boiler. When it is hot stir in the well-washed rice and salt. Cook until the rice is perfectly tender. The milk should be nearly absorbed, leaving the rice very moist. Add to the hot cooked rice the flavoring, the sugar, and the gelatin, which has been soaked in the cold water, and mix carefully. When the mixture is beginning to set, fold in the cream, whipped stiff. Pour into a mold and chill. Serve with strawberry preserve.

Rice Muffins

1/4 c. sugar	1 c. milk
1/4 c. cooked rice	5 tsp. baking powder
1 egg	1 tsp. salt
2 T. shortening	2 1/4 c. sifted flour

Mix sugar, rice, egg, melted shortening, and milk. Sift baking powder, salt and flour together and add. Fill greased muffin pans two-thirds full; bake in hot oven (425 degrees Fahr.) 30 minutes. Makes 12.

Rice and Apple Pudding

8 apples	1/2 c. rice
4 T. butter	8 T. marmalade
4 T. sugar	1/4 tsp. salt

Cut the apples into small pieces and simmer in a saucepan with the fat and sugar and enough water to cover. Wash the rice and cook in boiling water until soft, then drain. Line the bottom and sides of a mold with rice, fill the centre with the apples, and spread the marmalade over them. Cover the mold with rice and bake in a slow oven (300-350 degrees Fahr.) for 15 minutes. Let stand until cold, then unmold and turn on to a platter. Serve with any desired sauce.

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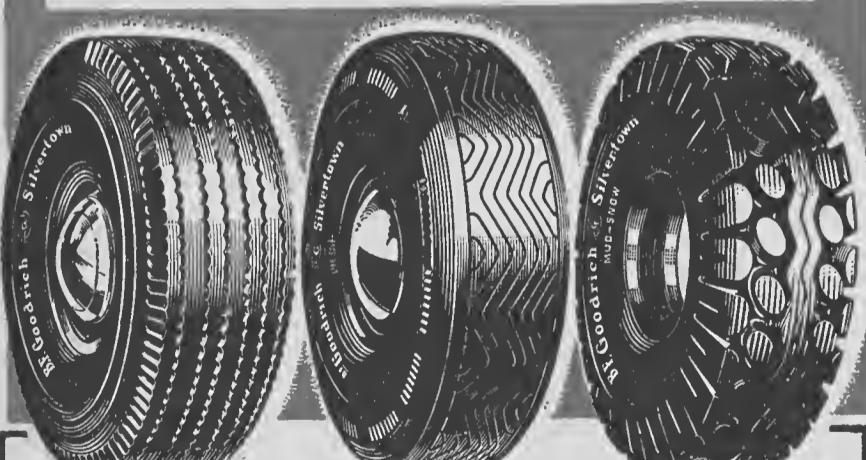
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New ways to cut down expenses

By MARGARET M. SPEECHLY

IF you are like most women these days, you are desperately trying to make your money go as far as possible. Careful buying is only half the answer. It must be coupled with the thrifty use of your purchases to the last shred.

Do you know how much of your money goes for soap? The amount varies according to the size of the family and the way the soap is used. If your choice for laundry work is sold in bars, be sure to melt it in advance. Chunks of soap put straight into the wash water do not make suds readily. In fact they may lie at the bottom of the washer, a dead loss, and the clothes will come out half clean. You will secure better results with less soap if you take time to melt it first.

Waste is costly

To get your money's worth from powdered soaps or the new soapless detergents, see that they are measured as carefully as the ingredients for a cake. If you open a package and dump some in the washer, you may put in far more than is actually needed to do a good laundering job. Sheer waste like this is something nobody can afford. Use a measure each time and you will cut costs.

Have you experimented with a variety of brands until you are sure which soap or detergent is the best for your purposes? A cheap product is a temptation when you are trying to reduce expenses, but if it fades colors, shrinks woollens, and roughens your skin, it is dear at any price.

One thing that runs up laundry costs is hard water, though lots of people merely regard it as a nuisance and do not stop to figure out the expense. The time to note the difference in water is when you switch from your regular supply to melted snow or ice. Why, you don't need half the amount of soap to make suds.

If you depend on wells, sloughs, or dug-outs, you will get varying degrees of hardness, depending on the amount of minerals taken up from the soil. The harder the water, the more soap it is likely to use up and the greater your expenditures will be.

It pays to soften water

The best plan even with moderately hard water is to break the hardness before adding any soap. Washing soda is a good softener and is much cheaper than soap. Make up a strong solution, using one pound of soda and one quart of water.

Dissolve thoroughly and keep in a well corked bottle, out of the way of children. Label the bottle, so there will be no mistake. Never put dry washing soda straight into a washer, because it is a powerful chemical and undissolved crystals coming into contact with fabrics will eat holes.

Measure the softener using three or four tablespoons for a washer of moderately hard water. It is just a matter of experimenting to find out what you

need. Stir well and allow five minutes so that the chemical may act on the minerals in the water. Make a note for next time to show how much you used. Remove the scum that rises. Measure enough soap or flakes to form a lasting suds two inches deep. Soften the rinse waters too.

When water is properly softened you not only save soap, but you lengthen the life of the clothes. There is none of the hateful, curdy scum that develops when soap is added straight to hard water. These particles cling to fabrics, giving them an all-over grey cast, and what is worse they eventually cause the materials to weaken and wear out.

The new soapless detergents are a boon in hard water areas because no softening is required and the detergents are effective even in cold water. They may be just what you need. In any case read the directions on the package very carefully, to find out what the contents are intended to do. Some brands are recommended for silks and woollens, some for cottons and linens, some for dishwashing, some for cleaning.

If you need starch for some items in the wash, decide in advance how much to make and what the consistency should be to get the desired results. A batch of thick starch for thin curtains would be sheer waste and the job would not please you anyway. Take time to avoid lumps because they mean a dead loss in stiffening power, and are sure to complicate the ironing.

Points about bleaching

Maybe you are wondering whether it is a good idea to use a bleach. Naturally there is no substitute for good laundry methods, but occasionally it is worth while to bleach such things as dish cloths, tea towels, table linens and face cloths that have become a bit stained or dingy. Good chlorine bleaches are sold under trade names.

MANY people are afraid to use a bleach in case it "eats holes." Tests carried on for long periods show that bleaches are only harmful when wrongly used. Be sure to read the directions on the bottle carefully.

To get the best results use bleaches for cottons and linens only; never for woollens or silks which are dissolved by chlorine compounds. Put in exactly what the directions call for—not a drop more.

Measure the water too, so that the concentration is right. Leave the articles in this just long enough to remove the stains or yellowness. Rinse at least three times or until no odor of bleach can be detected. If the chemical remains in the fabric it will certainly weaken it; hence the warning to remove every trace by thorough rinsing.

Bleaching can be done right in the washer using one tablespoon of bleach to each gallon of soapy water, but only if your entire wash is made up of cottons or linens. If you are obliged on ac-

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count of the water situation to use the same suds right through from start to finish, do not add any bleach because it harms woollen underwear and socks and silks. It would also ruin any colored things that are not proof against bleaches. Rayons seldom need bleaching.

The way to get over the difficulty is to treat dingy linens or cottons in a tub by themselves. However, do not attempt any bleaching unless you have enough water to give all the rinses that are needed to remove all traces of the chemical.

Treat fabrics gently

As a matter of economy check your washer to see if it is hard on woollens, silks or rayons. Friction and rough handling definitely shorten the life of such fabrics, so it may pay you to wash the "fluff stuff" in a small tub, with a hand plunger.

Rayons can be washed safely in most washers provided you leave them in for not more than three minutes. To give them longer treatment only increases the wear. Do not put them in with a load of heavy things because these strain rayons, especially at the seams.

In any case, it is poor policy to run the washer longer than is actually necessary to remove the dirt, on account of the tangling that may occur. Tugging and pulling are hard on seams and materials. Seven minutes are usually enough for lightly soiled clothing, and 10 or 12 for very dirty pieces. It pays many times over to change clothing frequently so that dirt is only on the surface and does not get a chance to become embedded.

THE NEW LOOK

Continued from page 95

though there isn't an extreme change in style. The newest models look box-like and square, often combining with a smart shoulder strap. There is a wide selection of colors from which to choose, and fabrics, plastics, and leather all play an important part in the making of attractive purses. Smaller bags for dress-up occasions are often made of faille or bengaline or the popular corde. As a rule purses are medium sized, have handles, are easy to carry and to manage.

Shoes are gradually changing from the open toe and heel style to the closed-in appearance giving a covered-up look. Colors are predominant this year, with green, red, grey, navy, and multicolored shoes all making an appearance. Heels may be almost any height and the choice depends on the wearer. For the high-heeled dress shoe, ankle straps are still popular and blend in beautifully with the long skirts. Baby doll shoes, flats, ballerinas, and platform soles are still shoe news.

WHAT is a new spring outfit without a hat? Spring, 1948, shows a wide selection of hats from which to choose one which compliments you and your costume. The hat usually sits straight on your head or tilts to one side. It can be a sailor, big or little brimmed, looking very feminine and dainty with floral trim or veiling. Young looking bonnets are flattering and gently frame the face, or they may be fitted and tilted to one side, balanced by flowers or a bow.

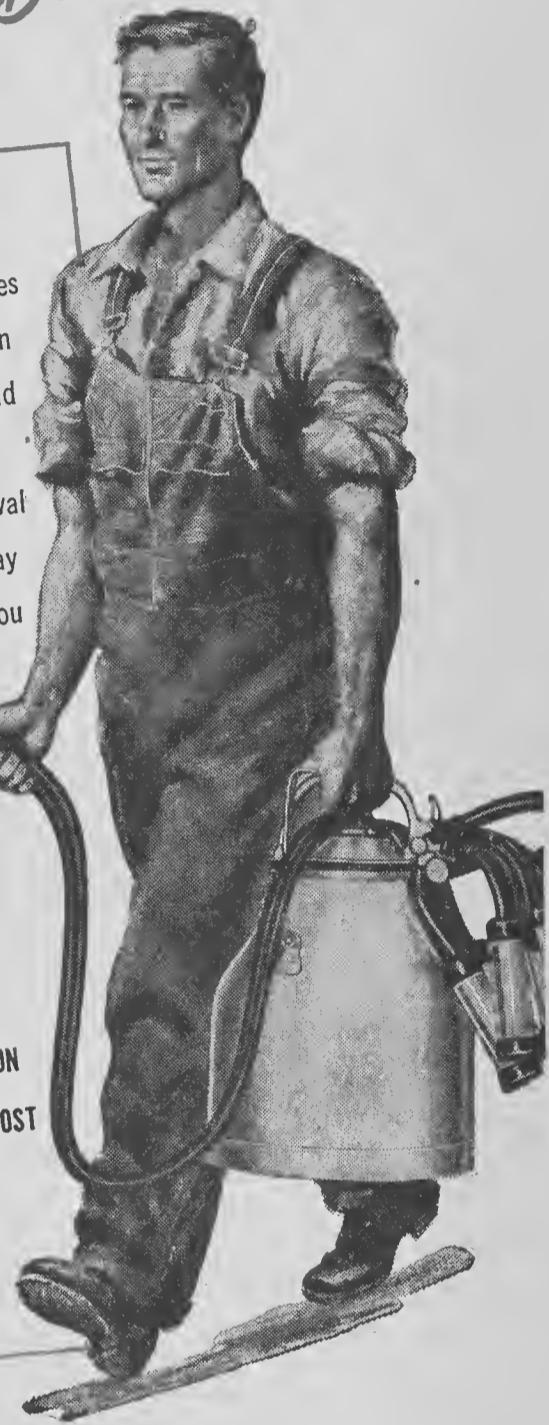
Gloves come into an important place as they are very necessary with the new, very feminine trend. Gloves are worn with most costumes and blend in with the color scheme. Leathers are top favorites, with fabrics a becoming second. Gloves may be long or short depending on the costume and occasion. Colors, especially in fabric gloves, are unlimited. Ruffles and shirring are found in many of the fancier gloves and lend a very delicate air.

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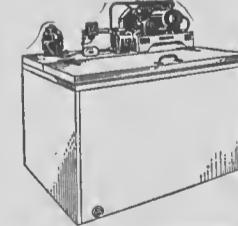


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GOOD NEWS

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This Elizabethan costume was worn in an era of extremes in dress when men wore corsets and women wore wigs. Masses of wires, stays and struts almost disguised the human figure.



This dainty French doll, representing the time of Louis XVI, displays wide hoops, an abundance of lace and ribbons, and an elaborate powdered wig.

History Repeats Itself

Out of the past centuries come many ideas of style which are present in our newest fashions

WITH the fashion world presenting such a startling change as in the New Look, we find ourselves looking at our own outdated wardrobes as something definitely belonging to the past. It is surprising to learn that what we consider the very latest ideas for style are in reality only a reflection of what women in the past centuries wore.

It is possible to trace many of our new fashion trends back through the centuries to find their beginnings. Pictured here are some dainty little dolls, each eighteen inches high, and each representing some period of history showing the trend of fashion popular at their time. If we look at them closely, it is possible to find some modern style adapted from their dress.

Consider, for example, the hoops and padded hips which is one of the latest in fashions. It was in the Elizabethan period that hoops and padding rounded out the figures of the ladies, and many ruffles and laces were added as decoration. The new waistpincher corset had its beginning around the time of Elizabeth, and now it is again high style.

The bustle effect and tight fitting jacket with the fuller skirt had its start when the Gay Nineties was in its hey day. Those lovely new full petticoats which lend such a swirl and rustle to the new skirts are a simpler version of the great number of petticoats which used to be worn under the huge skirts of the past. During the time of Victoria at least eighteen petticoats was the accepted style.

Fashions for women have changed throughout history to conform to the conditions of the times in which they lived. During the time of the Renaissance costly velvets, brocades and damasks were worn in elaborate costumes which emphasized the helpless status of women. Styles were slow to change since these fine fabrics wore indefinitely.

During the 17th and 18th centuries in France, laces, ribbons, and ruffles made the dresses extremely artificial to fit in with the intrigues and falseness of the court life. The Victorian reign featured modest and prim costumes, and jackets were introduced for feminine attire. The Gay Nineties presented more masculine tailored lines, reflecting the struggle being made for equal rights with men.

After the first World War women made a complete change away from the past, and the straight, unattractive Flapper costume of the '20's appeared. During the second World War, where women took their places beside the men, man-tailored suits became the accepted dress. Now the trend once again is back to a more feminine fashion, and we are dipping into the past centuries to give our modern dress a lady-like air.

In the old days, in order to have a new dress, it was first necessary to have the cloth woven by hand. The material then had to be dyed to the desired color. The dressmaker took over from there and sewed the whole dress by hand, therefore often making the entire time from start to finish of the garment almost a year.

Because of the poor dyes of the times, and the harsh soaps and cleaners, it was often impossible to wash the dress during its lifetime, and so it was usually worn without a laundering until it was useless. Today it is a simple matter with our superior dyes and laundering soap and equipment, to have our dresses freshened as often as we wish without harm. With our lovely and durable new fabrics and modern sewing methods we are certainly very far ahead indeed of our sisters of the past centuries.



The Victorian era featured modesty and plainness in dress, where no moral woman considered it good taste to edge any of her petticoats with lace.



From the costumes of the gay nineties our "New Look" designers have recaptured the silhouette of the narrow waist, the tiny saucy bustle, and the dipping hemline.



Around 1920 the hobble skirt combined with a full overblouse was in high fashion. It is making a re-appearance in our present day fashions.

Photos courtesy Lever Bros.

Now That Spring Is Here

Attention to diet and proper food habits pay good beauty dividends
By LORETTA MILLER

MOST of us eat too much and exercise too little in the wintertime. Our bodies go soft, our figures get out of line and our complexions become either too dry or too oily, depending upon which type of food we have eaten too generously. An abundance of fried greasy, starchy, and rich foods leaves the skin oily and the body too heavy, while a too limited diet is all too likely to leave the skin dry and the body too thin. The combination of correct diet and exercise, with sensible skin care, is the medium by which the figure is kept right and the complexion at its best.

No one can lay down hard and fast rules for the proper diet for the individual without first knowing the physical needs of the individual. However, it is safe to say that one should eat a well-balanced diet with the right amount of greens, fruits, vegetables, meats, and starches to keep the body functioning normally. Such foods should be taken only at mealtime. Unless one is trying to gain weight it is advisable not to lunch between meals. It is that little extra lunching that builds excess fat . . . and weight.

A limited, unbalanced diet plays havoc with the skin as well as the figure. The woman who seldom takes a cup of tea, coffee or other beverage, an extra piece of cake or pastry, a second serving of vegetable or fruit, and who too seldom drinks a glass of water, is the one who, at the end of the winter, is likely to find her skin dry and parched and her figure too thin. All this, plus spending too many inactive hours each day in a dry, hot house, tends to make the skin dry.

Balanced eating and exercising, plus a modified beauty routine should be the first thought of the girl seeking a better complexion and an improved figure. First, dry skin: To help overcome such a condition, several glasses of liquid, preferably water, milk or light tea, should be taken each day. More butter; more oil on salads, and more sweets, either in actual sugar in foods or candy, help round out the improved diet designed to fill in the too thin body and improve the skin. Such a diet has often been credited with improving the lustre of the hair and the health of the nails.

ANY of the better lubricating creams that contain pure lanoline will help overcome dry skin. When dryness is corrected lines are much less noticeable. If lines have not yet made their appearance, it is well to start at once in order to prevent them. A covering of lubricating cream should be applied as often as possible during the day and, if the need is urgent, again before going to bed. A thin coating of the cream left on overnight will hasten the corrective processes.

The facial skin is quick to reflect what we eat. Just as too little moisture and grease in the diet tend to make the skin dry and the body thin, so do too many liquids and an over-abundance of grease make the skin oily and the body too fat.

Correct the diet and alter the daily skin care regime and the complexion soon glows and the figure takes on love-



Elyse Knox maintains good posture as an aid to good looks.

lier lines. Learning to say "no" when the cake or candy tray is passed around, and limiting the liquid intake to only the necessary amount of moisture will soon trim the too heavy figure and overcome oily skin. Boiled or broiled foods instead of so many fried foods, and plain vegetables rather than those served with rich cream or butter sauces also should be included in this program.

Soap and water have not been equalled as cleansing agents for the normal or oily skin. Any pure soap will do the trick. A washcloth or complexion brush well lathered and scrubbed over the skin will cleanse it thoroughly. The brush is best, providing the skin can take it. This is rather rough treatment, I know, but the scrubbing stirs up circulation and does much to "purge" the pores of blackheads and at the same time normalize the action of the oil ducts. This normalizing process is important because it enables the pores to exude only the proper amount of oil with which to soften the skin and keep it smooth and young looking. (It is too little oil exuding through the pores that makes dry skin more susceptible to lines and wrinkles.)

When the pores seem to be filled with impurities (blackheads), be more faithful than ever with the use of the complexion brush, and make certain that the diet is corrected. An abundance of greens, salads, fruits, vegetables, whole wheat cereals, and only boiled, broiled or baked meats should make up the major portion of the oily-skin-heavy-body diet. Also, a little more exercise aimed at any out-of-proportion spots should be done with enthusiasm . . . and faithfulness.

Exercise is perhaps the only beauty and health measure one can enjoy at will and without cost. Getting out for a fast hike is one of the most healthful exercises known to both the too thin and the too heavy figure. Walking along at a snail's pace doesn't do a thing for any figure, but going along at a good gait, with head high, shoulders back and chest out fills the lungs with fresh air, stirs up circulation, brightens the eyes, puts a blush on the cheeks and goes far toward making or keeping the figure good.

Swimming has long been recognized as an ideal exercise for all figures. In fact, any exercise that is done with real force is certain to prove helpful. Better and faster results will be achieved if exercises are planned for specific parts of the body and if the program is followed faithfully every day. It is the cumulative effect of daily exercise that



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Our appearance is an indication of the life we lead and what we have done with our leisure. Just as "grass never grows on a busy street," so might it well be said that unattractive fat never accumulates on an active body... especially if that one eats moderately. Of course there are exceptions to this and any rule, and those exceptions should best have their diet outlined by a doctor. Being active is normal, so if the

winter months have kept you indoors too much and your figure needs trimming, now is the time to get at it. Or, if the reverse is the case and incorrect diet, lack of fresh air and moisture, as well as proper outdoor activity have made your skin dry and your figure too thin, it is well to take things in hand now for better looks in the future.

Spring is in the air. It is such a glad time to get out and enjoy the freshness of nature and let her put a natural glow on the cheeks and sparkle in the eyes.

Felt Knitting Bag

Easy to make

By ANNA DEBELLE

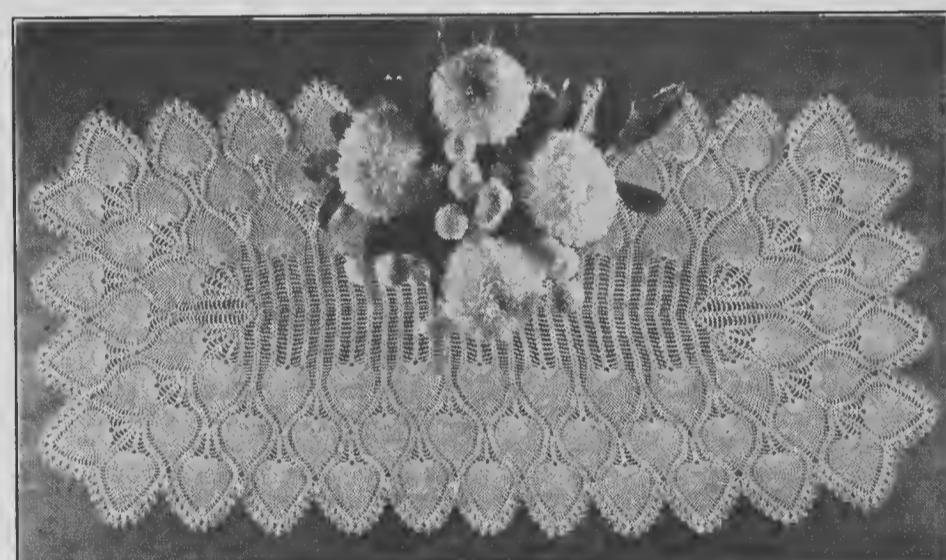
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Pineapple Crocheted Runner

By ANNA DEBELLE



Design No. C-338

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By ANNA DEBELLE

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(SEE PAGE SIX)

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Our Rural Library

By BARBARA VILLY CORMACK

"Reading Maketh a Full Man" . . . Bacon Do your city friends sometimes feel sorry for you because you cannot, like them, make your weekly trip to the public library and so keep abreast of the cultural times? They don't do that here any more. We are, I suppose, an average rural community, centering on a village of some 500 persons, but our U.F.A. library, though comparatively small, provides us with a good percentage of the current worthwhile best sellers as well as much standard literature and the books required for high school reading. At the present time we have over 1,000 books in circulation, and these are supplemented with a Travelling Library—a box of some 20 or 30 books—from the University Extension Department, and which is changed every two or three months.

The secret of a successful rural library lies in having a capable and enthusiastic librarian, with some interested and conscientious assistants, and in seeing to it that the make-up of the library does not become stagnant. A steady flow of newer books must be added fairly frequently, and the older ones, no longer in circulation, must be assigned to other spheres . . . the Navy League, or local hospitals.

We started our library about 12 years ago, in the hungry '30's and from the beginning we were lucky enough to have for our librarian a former member of the University Extension Library staff who knew all the ropes and all the wrinkles. We began in a very humble way with a box of discards from a city library, a rather ancient W.I. library and many private donations from members of the community. It was a great thrill gathering them, I remember—a regular surprise package each new box was—and we wondered how we'd ever get time to read them all.

WE finally got them all catalogued and lettered and numbered in the approved library white ink way and settled down to await customers. This was all very well for a start, but we soon found that among so many donations there was bound to be a certain amount of dead wood and we soon realized the need for at least a few more modern books. So from the few dollars we took in for subscriptions, supplemented by the very generous government grant, which matches dollar for dollar any money spent on books, we managed to purchase some of the more expensive best seller Book Club selections, and also some of the cheaper reprints, with westerns and other lighter literature for those who wanted it. Book donations still came in too, and with the Travelling Library there is now always a pretty good choice for the regular readers.

Another more recent source for new books has arisen from the practice of giving memorial books. For some time there has been a growing tendency in many districts to replace the floral wreaths and sprays at funeral services with some more tangible and lasting memorial. Where a community library exists, the donation of a good book suitably inscribed, is ideal for this purpose.

Library work is vital and interesting and with a number of assistants to change the books at a specified time each week, mostly Saturday afternoons, too much work does not fall on a single pair of shoulders.

In the country in the long winter evenings reading really comes into its own. When we can curl up by the fire with Costain's Moneymen, or Sinclair Lewis' Kingsblood Royal, or a host of others we need envy nobody . . . no, not even the city cousin with her big public library. She has probably had her name down on a waiting list for these very books for months and months.



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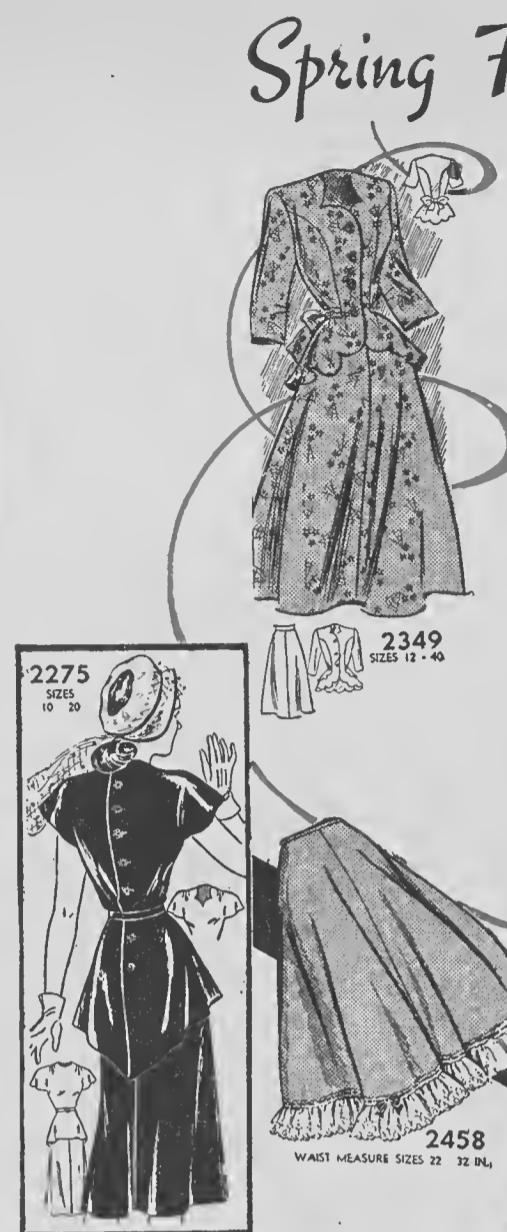
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Easy-to-Make

Yardage for Patterns from page 94

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No. 2259—A slenderizing dress for the new spring print. Cut in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, and 20 years, 36, 38, 40, and 42 inches bust. Size 16 requires 3½ yards 39-inch fabric.

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No. 2450—Ballerina skirt. Cut in waist sizes 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32 inches. Size 28 longer ballet length requires 5½ yards 39-inch fabric.

No. 2344—Sweet dress with longer tunic and V neckline. Cut in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, and 20 years, 36, 38, 40, and 42 inches bust. Size 36 requires 4½ yards 39-inch fabric.

Be sure to state correct size and number of pattern wanted.

Patterns 20 cents each.

Write name and address clearly.

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Send 20 cents for the Spring and Summer magazine which includes a complete sewing guide. Illustrated in color, it presents many pages of charming pattern designs for all ages and occasions.

The Country Boy and Girl

The Magic Carpet

By MARY E. GRANNAN

"**T**OMMY," said Mrs. Tompkins, one morning, "your play room needs a new rug. I'm going to go down town this morning to buy you one. What kind would you like?"

Tommy Tompkins rolled his big brown eyes, and cocked his curly head and said, "Mum, I'd like a magic carpet for my room."

Mrs. Tompkins laughed. "Well, now," she said, "I don't think I can promise you anything as exciting as a magic carpet, but I will get you whatever color you like."

"Red's magic," said Tommy, "so get me red, mum. Fairies wear red caps, so I know that red is magic."

"I'll do my best," said Mrs. Tompkins, and she went to the store where they sold carpets. "I want a red rug," she said to the storekeeper. "Tommy tells me 'red' is a magic color, and he gave his orders before I left."

"Well now, Mrs. Tompkins," said the storekeeper, "I haven't got a red rug in the place, but there is a green one here; that's the very thing for a little boy's room. There's goblins dancing in each corner, and one of them is wearing a red cap."

"It is indeed the very thing!" said Mrs. Tompkins. "Tommy told me that fairies wore red caps. He'll be delighted to find one on his rug." So the green rug was sent up to the Tompkins house, and Tommy was delighted.

"Mum," he cried, "this fairy is a pooka. I've read about pookas. I'm going to call this one Pooky."

And so he was called. Each night as Tommy went to bed he would say "Good night, Pooky."

But Pooky never answered back. He just kept on looking ahead of him. One morning Mrs. Tompkins said to Tommy, "Tommy, I don't like the way you're taking care of your new rug. Every morning when I come in to do your room, the rug is all wrinkled. How do you do it?"

"I don't do it mum," said Tommy. "I noticed the rug was all wrinkled too, and I thought you wrinkled it."

"Well I don't," said mother. "But somebody is wrinkling it. We'll both have to be careful, Tommy."

"Yes, Mum," said Tommy, and he began to think of the wrinkled rug. "It's Pooky," he said to himself, suddenly. "I know it's Pooky. I'm going to watch him tonight. Instead of going to sleep, I'm going to watch Pooky."

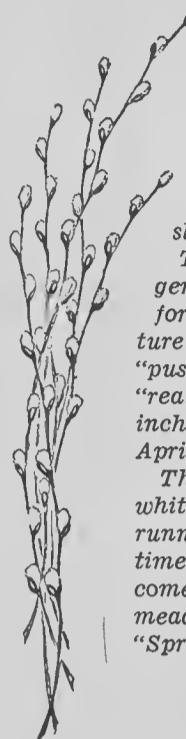
Tommy planned to stay awake, but once he got into bed his eyes closed and he was off to dreamland. The next morning the rug was wrinkled. He knew he hadn't wrinkled it. He knew his mother had not. "I know what I'll do," he said. "Tonight, when I go to bed, I'll pile all my building blocks on top of Pooky. If he gets up off that rug, he'll knock them all down. When they tumble they'll make such a racket that they'll wake me up, and then I'll see him."

Tommy did just as he said, and would you believe it when the clock struck twelve that night, Tommy was wakened by the great racket of falling blocks. He sat up in bed, Pooky was crawling from underneath the blocks. Tommy laughed.

Pooky frowned and said, "You did this to me, you piled those blocks up on top of me!"

"Yes," said Tommy, "but only because I wanted to meet you. Hello Pooky."

"Hello Tommy," said Pooky.



April days are here again and the outdoor world is calling to you, "Come out! Look up! Look down! Look all around you!" On the farm you see the first tiny baby chicks of yellow and black, new calves, new kittens, perhaps even a new pup of your very own joins the farm family. To comfort that new pup if he whines at night when he is lonely just put an alarm clock wrapped in a cloth beside him and the pup listening to the tick of the clock believes he hears the beat of his mother's heart and goes off to sleep.

Those pussy willows you gathered make a special bouquet if you gently color the "pussies" with colored chalk, using different shades for each branch. Also you could make a pretty April calendar or picture by drawing a bunch of pussy willows, as shown, then taking the "pussies" from the willow and pasting them on your picture to make "real" pussy willows. A long narrow sheet of paper about four by eight inches would be suitable for such a design, with a small calendar for April drawn near the bottom of the page.

That hare you saw running through the bush with his coat part white and part brown looked as if he were wearing patches. The gophers running along the ground are a brighter color, almost yellow at this time of year. Have you noticed? Geese and ducks call out to you as they come back to their old feeding grounds, the glad happy song of the meadow lark floats out on the air and someone says (perhaps it's you) "Spring is here!"

—Ann Sankey

"You know my name?" gasped Tommy.

"Sure," said Pooky. "I hear your mother talking to you." And then he laughed. "She blames you for wrinkling the rug, doesn't she?"

"Yes," said Tommy. "And you wrinkle it, don't you?"

"Sure," said Pooky. "I dance on it and it wrinkles. I dance every night when the clock strikes twelve. I get tired of staying still all day. So I dance at night. Want to see me?" And Pooky turned somersaults all over the room, under the bed, over the window sill, under the bureau. He was everywhere in no time at all.

Tommy had fun, and said he was glad that he'd put the blocks on Pooky.

"Well, I'm not," said Pooky. "Listen, Tommy, if you want to see me dancing in the night, I'll wake you after this. How'd you like it if I covered you with big blocks?"

"I wouldn't like it," said Tommy, laughing. He was still laughing when he went to breakfast.

"Tommy Tompkins, what are you laughing at?" said his mother. "I don't see anything to laugh at."

"You would if you had a magic carpet in your room," said little Tommy Tompkins.

Napkin and Cutlery Etiquette

KIVES, forks, spoons, and napkins have a habit of getting in the way at the dinner party unless you know just how to handle them.

A safe and correct place for the napkin is out of sight. When you sit down, unfold the napkin and place it across your lap. It should never be tucked into your collar as though you expected to get a haircut. The only time during the meal that the napkin may be seen is when you use it to clean off your lips. When finished, if at home, fold up the napkin and leave it on the left of your plate. When eating out for the odd meal you should not fold up the napkin.

There is a proper place for the knife and fork too. Once used, they should never be placed on the table cloth. If the food requires only a fork, place the knife on your plate and use the fork in the right hand. If you happen to be left-handed you will, of course, eat in the most convenient manner. The pleasure of eating should never be marred by anxiety about what is right and proper. But if you know the simple rules beforehand, and practise them

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Did you ever wish that you could just ask for a thing and suddenly it would appear? This happened to a Chinese boy whose name was Aladdin. His father was dead and his mother worked hard to make money for food. Aladdin helped her very little for he was lazy.

One day as he was standing idle a stranger came up and asked him if his name were Aladdin. Aladdin was surprised but answered, "That is my name, but who are you?"

The stranger replied, "I am your dead father's brother so you must be my nephew. Tell your mother I shall call to see her tomorrow."

Now this stranger was really a magician and that is how he knew Aladdin's name and all about his father. When he called he brought presents for them and offered to set Aladdin up in business. Then Aladdin and his uncle took a long walk out into the country to a lonely valley. They made a fire and the magician threw some perfume into the flames and said some strange words. The earth opened to show stairs leading down. "Go down the steps and along the hall until you come to a lamp. Blow out the lamp and bring it to me. This ring will protect you." Aladdin soon returned. "Quick," said the magician, "give me the lamp."

But Aladdin said, "Wait till I am out of the hole." Just then the earth closed and Aladdin was a prisoner until he chanced to rub the lamp and a spirit appeared (as you see in our picture). "Take me out of this place," Aladdin begged. At once he was at home and his mother was overjoyed to see him again. She needed food so Aladdin rubbed his lamp and rich food appeared on the table. How glad they were now for they could have all the things they wished by just rubbing the lamp. Aladdin, with the help of his lamp, sent such rich presents to the princess that she agreed to marry him.—A. T.



Picture of Aladdin and his Lamp to color.

THE Country GUIDE

with which is incorporated

THE NOR'-WEST FARMER and FARM AND HOME

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VOL. LXVII

WINNIPEG, APRIL, 1948

No. 4

The World Outlook

The past month has seen a steady deterioration in international relations. The Communist coup in Czechoslovakia was followed immediately by a notice served on Finland, the import of which everybody understands. Perhaps the Russians overplayed their hand, for the West forthwith set about with singleness of mind to halt Moscow's Hitlerian advance. In Brussels, Britain, France and the Benelux countries signed a 50-year political and military pact. In Paris, 16 nations met to organize recovery under the Marshall Plan. At Lake Success, the U.S. abandoned the partition of Palestine in order to concentrate its Trans-Atlantic forces facing the Iron Curtain. In Washington, President Truman asked for the revival of the draft, a step taken by the U.S. only once before in peace time.

April will bring a new crisis with the Italian election. There is no exaggerating the implications a Communist victory would have on the European map, on the new Western Union, on the precarious politics of France, and on the whole Anglo-American strategy in Europe. While Secretary Marshall counsels the American nation to be calm, there is some talk of the drastic steps the Americans should take in the event of a Communist victory in Italy.

Canada's position is well understood. Various pronouncements by Cabinet ministers indicate that the country will play its part in any fighting organization fashioned to defend the free nations of the world. The language has been guarded, but the intention is clear. The older generation remembers the tragic disunity of this country in the first World War. Tact and compromise prevented a recurrence of that bitterness in 1939, but no one pretends to believe that we achieved the united front which every nation should present in war. During the heat of the struggle it was the hope of patriotic Canadians that with the coming of peace this country could take up in a quiet atmosphere the task of consolidating what gains have been made in cementing the two leading groups in this country, and developing a new outlook on external affairs. The time has been too short and distractions too many to tackle this thorny problem. It is to be hoped, however, that the character of the issue will ensure complete accord among Canadians of every racial origin.

Without discounting the gravity of the present situation abroad, it should be said with emphasis that war is not inevitable. If the free nations can agree on a line beyond which they will not recede, and can organize the force to make good their determination, the tensions of the moment may subside. It is a situation which calls for grim determination but no alarm. Whatever long-term plans the Kremlin may have, it is difficult to believe that its leaders will commit themselves to war in the present stage of their recovery.

Barley Prices

Grain growers who have followed the course of barley prices since the first of the year are aware that the supply-and-demand position has altered considerably in that time. The average January cash closing price for No. 1 Feed barley was \$1.28 1/2, while on January 12 No. 3 C.W. went

THE COUNTRY GUIDE

as high as \$1.56. Eastern feeders were apprehensive about maintaining continuous supplies and the department of agriculture continued to assure all and sundry that exports should remain under the ban because practically the whole Canadian supply was required to support the domestic livestock industry.

By mid-March No. 3 C.W. had dropped to \$1.14 1/2, and No. 1 Feed to \$1.03, although there has been a slight price recovery since then. Eastern storage is now repleted, and in spite of reported increases in hog production, demand has noticeably slowed down.

The plain fact is that the domestic demand will not completely absorb the 1947 barley crop. With exports forbidden the price has dropped and the buyer of feed benefits at the expense of the grower. The obvious course is to permit export of the surplus to the American market. Precedents exist for the temporary relaxation of export restrictions. By charging a sufficiently high rate for export permits, grain handlers who happen to have stocks in store could be prevented from making undue fortuitous profits. The minister of finance should welcome the release of some barley to the American market as a source of American dollars.

Farmers have borne with remarkable patience the government's persistence in maintaining controls on agricultural products while controls on other commodities have been abandoned. Even in urban centres it is now generally recognized that agriculture is being penalized thereby. To refuse export licences for barley under the present circumstances is to compound injustice because it relieves one group of farmers at the expense of others.

Increased Wheat Price

In the amendment to the Canadian Wheat Board Act recently passed by parliament, the government took power to raise the initial price to be paid for wheat during the remainder of the five-year pool period ending July 31, 1950. Immediately after passage of the amendment, it was announced that as from April 1, the initial price paid by the Canadian Wheat Board would be raised by 20 cents per bushel, to \$1.55, basis No. 1 Northern, Fort William, Port Arthur and Vancouver. Because the government is operating a five-year pool, beginning with the crop of 1945, the increase of 20 cents will also apply to all wheat delivered to the Board since August 1, of that year.

The Minister of Trade and Commerce told the House that the Board is holding a surplus of \$44 million from the 1945 delivered crop of 235.4 million bushels; \$110 million from 1946 deliveries amounting to 333 million bushels; and is estimating a surplus of \$80 million from probable deliveries of 270 million bushels from the 1947 crop. This makes an anticipated surplus of \$230 million by July 31 of this year, of which \$167 million will be required to raise the initial price by 20 cents per bushel, leaving about \$67 million still in the kitty as a nest egg for further payments. Should the 1948 and 1949 crops be average, and if the government can hold Britain to the full \$2.00 price for the 1949 crop (the most that can be charged under the terms of the International Wheat Agreement), it is conceivable that prairie wheat producers may be able to come out of the pool with an average of \$1.80, basis No. 1 Northern, for the five years ending July 31, 1950.

This looks like a good price and it is, by any normal standards. If it materializes it will have been exceeded only once, namely, during the five-year period ending July, 1921, for which the average price, basis No. 1 Northern, was \$2.25 or better. In that period there were four war-grown crops, and one marketed in the slump of 1920-1921. Of these, a fraction more than three crops were marketed by government boards. It is well to remember, too, that prior to the present five-year pool period, farmers did not receive as much as a dollar per bushel for their

wheat in any war year until the crop of 1942, when they received \$1.02, and the following year \$1.37, basis Fort William. With this in mind and remembering also that World War II was a much more cataclysmic event than World War I, resulting in a much more intense demand for wheat in particular, and that war-time control of the cost of living had centred about the farmer, it is no wonder that the Minister of Trade and Commerce was able to say in connection with the newly-signed Canada-United Kingdom wheat contract, that

"There is no question that the wheat producers have made possible the success of domestic price control by immediate sacrifices in their 1945-1946 and current export prices. These sacrifices have also assisted in overseas rehabilitation."

More recent events have brought about an enforced and unfair continuation of the sacrifice.

International Agreement

To date, 22 countries have signed the International Wheat Agreement. Over a five-year period, beginning August 1, this year, it is designed to stabilize the price of 2,500,000 bushels of wheat at levels between \$1.10 and \$2.00 per bushel, basis Canadian No. 1 Northern, at Fort William. The conclusion of the recent Washington Conference successfully brought to a close, for the time being, efforts over a long period of years to bring some measure of stability to world wheat markets.

It is an experiment on a gigantic scale, and one in which Canada has a vital interest. Fifteen years ago it was tried and failed, due to the action of countries that are this time outside of the agreement. An attempt was made a year ago at the London Conference and it failed, because, according to Broomhall's Corn Trade News, "In view of the known shortage of dollars in most European countries, and the latest revelation of our own dollar plight, the agreement could not be implemented without financial aid." Now, according to the same authority, "a promise of Marshall Plan aid was implicit in the signing of the agreement. . . . This also explains our acceptance of the maximum of \$2.00 per bushel and the initial minimum of \$1.50, whereas in March last year we rejected more favorable terms. The United States, in fact, is the power behind the agreement and the guarantor of its financial success."

If this be true—and it is obviously true—Canada may find herself in an unhappy position as a result of the fact that she, like the United States, is a dollar country. Any country financing world recovery to the extent of \$5.3 billion in one year, is not likely to favor unduly high prices for products which she must provide the money for, especially if they must be purchased in other dollar countries. United States farmers are taken care of by guaranteed prices, regardless of international agreements, and the United States Government may well take the view that it will pay to supply export wheat at prices lower than she would otherwise expect, in order to stretch farther those of her dollars which must be spent in other countries. If such were to be her attitude, she could in this way exert a downward influence on prices which the other two exporting countries must negotiate.

From all reports Australian wheat growers, who must take a lower price after August 1 than they are now getting, are not happy over the agreement. In this country we have presumably been better conditioned to the arguments in favor of it, and there is also this in our favor, that we still have two years of the British agreement to run, so that whatever course we are now committed to, need not be altered for that length of time. In the meantime, it is probably true that if the International Wheat Agreement can come out of the first two years with a clean bill of health, there will be a reasonably good chance of it lasting for the full five-year term. On that reed we must rest our hopes.